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No. 7794.—Vol. L. WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 12, 1890. Price One Penny.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE. (The National Theatre.)

EACH EVENING, at 7.15, and THIS DAY (Wednesday), and SATURDAY NEXT, at 1.30, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. Augustus Harris in previous years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged favourite in himself. Messrs. Nicholls, Less, Lauri, jun., Griffiths Brothers, Coupnet, jun., Leopold Brothers, Payne (Clown), and Campbell; Misses Vernon, Faudelle, Ellicott, Æneas, Cay, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 A.M. all day. LAST FOUR NIGHTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Bourchier Tree.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by Robert Buchanan. Last weeks. Mr. Tree as Baroque and Luversan. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Harcourt, Thomas, Gautier, Harwood; Mrs. Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING; Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle four rows only, 5s. 6d. Gallery, 1s.
MATINEE OF A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT and following SATURDAY, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.)

THE DEAD HEART—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (25th time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Pigbron; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Wyndham.

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner, Mr. H. Saker; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded at 8.00 SWEETHEART, GOODBYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, J. Chapuy; Mesdames E. Terriss, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—LAST MATINEE of OUR BOYS SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2 o'clock.

GAIETY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farrar, Mr. Sydney Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Mrs. Leonard; Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred Leslie, Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. Edward Terry.)
(Management, Miss Grahame.)

TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and E. Kerr; Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 LAST PARTING OF THE WAYS. Messrs. Arthur Williams, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Mangham, Thos. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James Fisk, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.30. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.

TO-DAY, at 3 and 9, THE BUNGALOW, by Frederick Hoenier. 176th and 177th Performances. The greatest success of the season. Shrieks of laughter and thunders of applause. At 2.15 and 8.15, ISALDA. Doors open 2 and 7.45. Messrs. C. Glenney, Arthur Stephens, Compton Coutts, Bassett Roe, Matthew Brodie, R. Stockton, and Fred Kaye; Misses Sophie Larkin, Vane Featherston, Marie Hinerton, Mary Rorke, and Mary Richards. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. Gatti, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 150th Time. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Arthur Cecil, H. Bentham, J. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Mangham, Thos. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James Fisk, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.30. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessees and Managers, Mr. Thomas Thorne.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, CLARISSA. At 7.45, MADAM SWEET. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. E. E. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Hanbury, F. Grove, F. Gilmore and Fred Thorne; Miss Winifred Emery, Mesdames Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Bryer, J. Wayne, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Banister. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. E. Roxby.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Incidental Music. Messrs. Brydone, Major, Benson, Ross, Howard, Athol Forde, Black, Weir, Phillips, Young, Hollis, Dyson, Bentley, Holmes Gore, Forrest, Dene, Geraldine, Townsend, Burnleigh, Mitchelmore. MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. R. MANLEY, Manager. MAY THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8, and MATINEE, THURSDAY NEXT, at 2.15.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.

TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 7.45, Henry Pettit and George R. Sims' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the most popular artists will appear—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Dalziel, E. Mayeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Hindley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open at 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Langtry.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Leigh, Armbruster, &c.; Messrs. Cautley, Bourchier, Sugden, Everill, Patton, Beaton, Forbes, Cay, Lewis, Cannings, Lawford, Grover, Lingham, Arncliffe, Gwynne, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Horace Sedger.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Mr. Brougham, Milnes, Arnaldi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 3,703.

GARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.)

THIS EVENING, at 8, A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves, Mr. S. Cathcart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr. F. H. Knight, Mr. R. Harding, Mr. Fyson, Miss Harriett Jay, Miss Le Thiere, Mrs. F. Hunter, and Miss Kate Phillips. Preceded, at nine minutes past 8, by DREAM FACES. Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. S. Pringle; Miss Blanche Horlock and Mrs. Carlotta Addison (specially engaged). Doors open 7.40. MATINEE SATURDAY, March 22, at 2 P.M. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. Compton.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

Messrs. E. S. Willard and John Lart, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. John Lancaster.
THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
LAST WEEKS.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, E. W. Garden, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St.Ange, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. Griffiths.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Henry J. Leslie.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Effie Ivring, Maud Holland, Mrs. Sidney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Bea Davies, Alec Marsh, Albert Christian, J. Le Hay, Frank M. Rye, Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 9 P.M., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by James Albery, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby A. Bouchard, &c., and Miss Fanny Brough; Mesdames Gaillard, Robertson, Cowell, Mary Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 3,724.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. Kendal and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.)

TO-NIGHT at 8, 216th performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Appleworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Thorpe Bates, Mr. W. Queriss, Mrs. Rousby, Miss Rose Leclercq, Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO THE RESCUE, Mr. R. Boleyn, Mr. F. Farren. Miss K. Harrington and Mrs. Philips.
NOTICE.—LAST WEEKS of AUNT JACK.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. George Alexander.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, FOOL'S MATE. At 9, DR. BILL.
Messrs. Frederick Terry, Arthur Helmore, Arthur Ashley, Gregory Cupel, Henry Grattan, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robin, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Gracie Murielle, Laura Graves, Edith Kenward, and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.45.
MATINEES THIS DAY (Wednesday) and SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. Arbuthnot.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.

"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock. ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina, Rosone; Mollers, Siracco, Marie, Thurgate, and Vergi; and Signor De Vincenti. Varieties by ERCET and RIVIERE, the Sisters Rihardo, Mlle. Aida Allen, Marvelez, Boudhonah, and the Dog "Rags," the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, Arthur Tinsley, Marie Lloyd, George English, Lotto, Cilo, and Otto, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0. THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF BEAUTY, by Mr. Leopold Wenzel. Music by M. Leopold Wenzel. The Brothers Fratellini, Bertie de Sortis, Signor Albertieri and Signorina Malvina Cavalieri, Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10.45, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. Savile Clarke, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.

GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—C. H. Mackernotte, the popular actor and vocalist; the Mannions, in a novel musical absurdity; Vesbrino, the wonderful Jap; the Brantons, American variety artists; Ormsby and Pepper; Mlle. Daniele, musical clown; Dan Holding; Arthur Finney; Derval, the marvellous mimic; Sam Torr; Deane Brand, operatic vocalist; Prof. Whitefield's Dogs; Ryan and Richfield; Nelly Clapham; Constance Albert and Edmund Bourne, the Bellefaire Sisters; James Fawn, comic; the Kellenos Troupe; Sada Grossmith; first appearance in the variety halls of Miss Kate Cleveland, the famous society lady pianiste; F. McNish, Conductor; Marion Graham.
EVENINGS at 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £2 2s.

TOO LATE, LORD RANDOLPH!

We cannot altogether join in the pæans of delight which are being raised in Liberal quarters at Lord Randolph Churchill's speech. Our hesitation in the matter is not because we think less of that gentleman than others do, but rather because we have hoped more. That his speech last night "did damage to his party," we do not of course dispute. It was a most able indictment of what Mr. Fowler, in his thoughtful lecture to the Eighty Club last night, called "the Unconstitutional Parliament," for one of their worst unconstitutional acts. But it seems to us equally certain that Lord Randolph's speech will also damage himself. In saying this we are not thinking of the abuse by the *Standard:* that is only the *Standard's* way; nor of the needlessly unpleasant metaphors by which Lord Randolph sought to rivet attention upon his words: that is only Lord Randolph's way. We are thinking rather of the effect which the speech must have on any sober estimate of Lord Randolph as a political force. To say that he is flighty is a commonplace; but what last night's speech brings out is a worse defect—a lack, namely, of courage and nerve. There was an unpleasant flavour of the same thing last session in Lord Randolph's very inconsistent and unsatisfactory attitude on the Naval Defence Bill: which he first vehemently opposed, but afterwards allowed, out of weariness or fear of being in a minority, to go unchallenged. In the case of the Parnell Commission, Lord Randolph's line has shown the same lack of consistent nerve. The speech which he delivered last night ought, as every one said, to have been delivered on the second reading of the Bill. Lord Randolph admitted the fact himself, for he said:—

> These views of mine have not been formed as a consequence of what has been going on. They were formed the moment this Commission was proposed; and what course did I take? I might have taken a course such as hon. gentlemen opposite might have liked to have seen me take. I might have opposed the Government—I believe I ought to have done that—but I knew the storm of calumny and imputation which would break out from gentlemen of passionate and unreflecting minds if I did so. I, therefore, took a different course. I embodied these views in a written document which I have laid before the House, and which I respectfully submitted to the First Lord of the Treasury to be laid before the Government.

And what did Mr. Smith do with the document? He simply basketed it, of course. Lord Randolph's action was thus absolutely ineffective. His memorandum was a sop to his own conscience, and that is all. He was taking an uncourageous course, and thought to make up for want of brave action by putting brave words on paper. He did this, he tells us, in order to avoid calumny. But has he avoided it? Let him read the *Standard*, and see. Why, even his own familiar friend, Mr. Jennings, disowned him last night. Lord Randolph seemed to feel the bitterness of the situation. "There was a time," he said, "not very long ago, when my words had some weight." That time, he sees, has passed away. But how can he wonder that others should attach little weight to his views, if he himself has not the full courage of them? Lord Randolph missed his chance in this case, and post-dated his attack on the Commission by a couple of years, in order to avoid calumny. His want of courage has been visited severely upon him. He has not avoided the calumny, but he has added to it a touch of not altogether unmerited contempt.

As for the debate to which Lord Randolph's speech lent a flicker of excitement before it expired, the only thing to be said is that it is over, and that we await the next move. "We have every intention," said Mr. Chaplin, "of going through with our course to the end." Very well, then. Two things are imperatively called for by the justice and logic of the case. In the first place, the Government prevailed upon the House, for a second time last night, to declare that the *Times* did not deserve its condemnation. That is negative. For the positive side of the matter, we have had the declaration of Ministerialist after Ministerialist that the *Times* has deserved well of "all honest men" and rendered most important public service. Then if Ministers have indeed "every intention," as Mr. Chaplin says, "of going through with it to the end," they should in common fairness place upon the Estimates a vote to pay the *Times* expenses, instead of leaving the reward of public service to the precarious chances of a private Pigott Indemnity Fund in an evening newspaper. That is the first duty of Ministers. The second is to institute criminal proceedings against the Members whom night after night they have been denouncing as criminals. Mr. Goschen declared, as against Lord Randolph's constitutional arguments, that there was a precedent for the adoption of the Report of the Parnell Commission in the adoption of the reports of Election Judges. Then let Mr. Goschen have the courage to carry out his precedent to the end. As Mr. Morley aptly replied, consequences follow from the findings of the Election Judges. Let, then, consequences follow also from the findings of the Commission Judges. From our point of view Ministers have violated the Constitution, and have done grievous injustice to Mr. Parnell. They might at least have the courage of their convictions and do justice to the *Times*—whose services they applaud, and their duty to their country, whose Legislature is, according to them, honeycombed with traitorous criminals.

IS THE DISCOUNT SYSTEM DOOMED?

Answers of the Leading London Booksellers.

Is the book-buyer no longer to have his "threepence in the shilling" discount? This is the question which has for some time been agitating the book trade, and which was brought to a head last week by Mr. Frederick Macmillan. Writing in the organ of the trade, Mr. Macmillan urged that the time had come for seriously taking in hand the growing evil of "underselling." The competition amongst booksellers has become so keen that "it is rapidly becoming impossible," writes Mr. Macmillan, "for a bookseller pure and simple, dealing in current literature, to make a living profit from his business."

Two possible remedies for underselling suggested themselves: (1) to fix the limit of discount which should be allowed from published prices; (2) to abolish discounts to the public altogether. Mr. Macmillan prefers the latter solution. "If the principle of giving discounts to purchasers be admitted, it is difficult," he says, "to fix a limit to them, and it seems to me that the best and only satisfactory plan is a general reduction of retail prices, and the diminution of trade allowances to such a point that the full published price may reasonably be demanded and obtained from purchasers. I am of opinion that a trade price of 10*d.* in the £s., with the present discounts at settlement, but without odd books, would be at once sufficient and just, and at the same time not large enough to tempt the bookseller into giving discounts to his customers, and so beginning over again the process of demoralization."

What, therefore, Mr. Macmillan proposes is that the publishers should agree together on the above basis. But this the publishers will never do "unless they are assured that they would be acting with the general approval of the retail trade."

Of the three classes of persons which would be affected by the proposed change—the booksellers, the book-buyers, and the publishers—the first-named is thus master of the situation. It is with the booksellers that the question rests. With a view to discovering what the London trade thinks of Mr. Macmillan's scheme, a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* visited the leading booksellers of the metropolis on Saturday last, and discussed the matter with them. The opinions of ten of these gentlemen are subjoined:—

Mr. Stoneham

Our representative first called upon Mr. Stoneham, the well-known City bookseller; and, referring to the opening paragraph of Mr. Macmillan's letter, asked him if it were really true that the bookseller could no longer make a living profit upon the wares which he sold. Mr. Stoneham smiled. His smile was full of meaning, and far more eloquent than any words could have been. It left no doubt upon our interviewer's mind that Mr. Stoneham at least succeeds in making that "living profit" which Mr. Macmillan deems to be a thing of the past.

"Do you think the terms offered by Mr. Macmillan on behalf of the publishers—namely, tenpence in the shilling with discount, but no extra copies—fair and just all round?"—"They are very good terms, certainly—for the publisher," replied Mr. Stoneham. "As bookseller you would not feel inclined to accept them in preference to those which you now have?"—"No." "And you will not co-operate with other booksellers in endeavouring to bring Mr. Macmillan's net system into practice?"—"I do not."

Mr. Stoneham is of opinion that the public will not stand the abolition of the discount system—an opinion which is shared by many of his competitors in the trade. He further thinks that the publishers themselves can remedy

ART NOTES.

Mr. Irving and his Portraits.

Among the many heads which Mr. Bartlett has painted from life into the picture of the Savage Club in its Wigwam, that is to go to the next Royal Academy, is one of Mr. Irving, which so pleased the eminent actor that he has commissioned the artist to produce a life-size portrait of him. Mr. Irving has many a time been tempted. Mr. J. Archer exhibited portraits of him as "Mathias" and "Charles I." at the Royal Academy of 1871 and 1873, and Mr. Brodie in 1879; Mr. Long painted him as "Hamlet" in 1880; and as such, too, Mr. Onslow Ford sculpted him in marble. Sir Everett Millais' portrait came in 1884; Mr. John Collier's, at the Grosvenor, in 1886; Mr. Minton's medallion, at the Academy, in 1894; and Mr. Sargent's portrait, at the same gallery, last year. Then he has been drawn by Mr. Whistler, Mr. Long, Mr. Fred Barnard, and others.

The President's Pictures for the Royal Academy.

If the gods be but propitious, Sir Frederick Leighton will be represented at the forthcoming exhibition of the Royal Academy by three pictures. His "Clytie," which has for so a long time been on the easel, will not be finished, but there will in all probability be the following: 1. "The Bath of Venus," a picture of exquisite grace, representing the lovely goddess disrobing *à la* "Diadumene" of Mr. Poynter. This work is a widened version of the little painting Sir Frederick did for Mr. Alma Tadema's "autograph screen;" (2) "Solitude," a maiden seated in a rocky cleft beside a clear, brown streamlet in Scotland, the personification of "the sweet sad Lady of the Rill;" (3) "The Tragic Music," a seated figure, not unlike "The Sibyl" of last year in pose and sentiment.

Mr. Menpes in India.

Mr. Mortimer Menpes is the text of a leading article in a recent number of the *Times of India*. In it we are informed that his preparations for his Indian Exhibition in the second week of April, 1891, are proceeding apace, and that he has already painted a gallery-full of pictures. The lovely cities of Jeypore and Hyderabad have provided him with many a scene and "bit of colour," while he has overrun the country from Cashmere to Deccan, painting for the most part in early morning or about sun-down.

Mr. Alma Tadema's Next Exhibit.

Mr. Alma-Tadema's "Frigidarium"—which will doubtless be seen on the same spot which he seems to have leased in Burlington House for some years past—is very different now to what it was when it was described in a contemporary a week or two ago. In this splendid "Frigidarium" of the ancient baths of Rome, or luxurious Baiæ, ladies are robing, disrobing, or disrobed—a subject which has given to the artist opportunities for the exercise of all the excellencies for which he is famous. In order to reach the standard he has set up for himself, the artist has not hesitated to paint out half of his nearly-completed picture—removing the columns, re-grouping the figures, and re-posing the principal.

German Art in London.

Unusual interest will be felt in the exhibition to be opened next week at the French Gallery in Pall Mall. This is to consist of a collection of works of Herr Von Uhde and Liebermann, who at the recent Paris Exhibition carried off the two *grands prix* awarded to German artists. Perhaps the most curiosity attaches to the work of the first-named, as his entirely conscientious efforts to harmonise religious beliefs with modern surroundings have met with a success almost unprecedented in modern times.

The Story of a Famous Table.

The Isabey Table, or "Table des Maréchaux," which is considered to be the *chef d'œuvre* of Sèvres and of the miniaturist Isabey, has undergone irreparable damage in its removal from the Paris Exhibition, and has been cracked from end to end. This celebrated table was made to the order of Napoleon I. It was decorated with the portraits of the Emperor and of his fourteen Marshals, which miniatures were exquisitely executed by Isabey himself on the porcelain. The table took four years to make, and cost Napoleon £1,600. Its history is curious. At the fall of the Empire the table was returned to the factory at Sèvres, to have a figure of victory and royal emblems inserted. This was, however, never done, and from 1817 to 1830 all traces of the whereabouts of the table were lost. It is now known that Isabey, discovering that his great work was about to be sold to a speculator, who meant to cut out the portraits of the Marshals and sell them for large sums, induced a Mr. de Serres to buy the table and preserve it intact. This De Serres did, paying £2,400 for the work of art; and thinking it wise to secrete it, he left it in the charge of a friend till 1830. At the end of this time the table was publicly exhibited in Paris, and was sent to London and exhibited at Mdme. Tussaud's. On the establishment of the Second Empire it was restored to Paris, and many attempts were made to sell it to the Empress, and it was exhibited at La Malmaison. It remained, however, in the Serres family till 1887, when it was sold to the daughter of Isabey for £1,200. After having safely passed through so many adventures and journeys, it is much to be regretted that this masterpiece of Sèvres should be finally broken by a clumsy porter.

underselling by refusing to supply books to members of the trade who decline to comply with such conditions as may generally be agreed upon.

MR. WILSON.

"I do not think the suggestion is a practical one," said Mr. Wilson, of Gracechurch-street, the gentleman upon whom our representative next called. "It won't come to anything. A union with a similar object was started many years ago, but it failed. And naturally enough. Suppose the net system were introduced to-morrow, it would not be long before somebody would 'cut.' Somebody would start selling a five-shilling book for 4*s.* 9*d.*, and then the rest would all have to follow, or run the risk of losing a portion of their trade."

"Mr. Stoneham thinks the public won't stand it: what is your opinion?"—"They would grumble at first, of course," replied Mr. Wilson; "but when they found they could not get the book for less, they would pay the price we asked for it."

"Is the bookseller, pure and simple, so badly off as Mr. Macmillan states?"—"Bookselling is not a profitable business, and in the country things are much worse than in London. There the bookseller is driven to become stationer and newsagent as well, and even then he cannot keep many books in stock. The result has been the bringing of a great deal of the retail trade of the country to London. People write to some London bookseller for the books they want, and he forwards them at discount price, plus postage."

"There is not much underselling in London, I suppose?"—"Very little. It is in the provinces that prices are 'cut' to so large an extent. We always sell a threepenny book for threepence; but at Brighton, I believe, a volume of Cassell's National Library can be bought for twopence-farthing."

"What is your opinion of Mr. Macmillan's terms?"—"They work out to pretty much the same as those which we get under the present system—that is assuming, of course, that we are to have the same discount—5 per cent. on settlement—as has hitherto been allowed."

"IT WILL DO THE TRADE A GREAT INJURY!"

Leaving Mr. Wilson, our representative went straight to another large bookselling concern in the City where the question was still further discussed. "It will do the trade a great injury," remarked the senior partner. He referred to the letter from a Mr. Lupton, of Burnley, which appears in this month's *Bookseller*, and which complains of even larger discounts than those offered in London. The public would see this letter, the senior partner thought, and the public, like Oliver Twist, would take their threepence in the shilling, and calmly ask for more.

"Mr. Macmillan speaks of twenty-three years' experience," continued our informant, "but I have been in the trade for more than thirty years. Underselling is no new thing; it has existed for nearly half a century. A man called Lackington, in Finsbury-circus, began it. He allowed twopence in the shilling, and this was done by others until the system became pretty general. In those days a bookseller could live; but when everybody had to increase the discount to threepence things became different. The extra penny absorbed a profit of 10 per cent."

"Are the terms proposed by Mr. Macmillan so fair as he suggests?"—"No bookseller could live upon the discount proposed. Besides, the scheme makes no provision for the accumulation of stock, or for any depreciation in value which may occur. Who's going to bear these losses? The bookseller, I suppose. The fact is that publishers have of late years been making colossal fortunes, and if any sacrifice is to be made on behalf of the public, it is they, and not the booksellers, who should make it."

"You don't think Mr. Macmillan's scheme will work?"—"It is absolutely impracticable," was the emphatic reply.

MR. JOHN F. DUNN.

This adverse opinion of the scheme was repeated in an equally emphatic manner by Mr. John F. Dunn, the well-known discount bookseller of Ludgate-hill and Cheapside. "Suppose," said he, "that half a dozen of the leading London booksellers were to combine and adopt some such system as that mentioned by Mr. Macmillan, what would happen? Why, some man a few doors up the street, or some one just below me, would at once introduce a discount system on his own account. I should sell some book at the full published price, and he would advertise it at a discount. He might lose on that particular book, but the ruse would succeed in directing attention to his shop. It would be worth its money as an advertisement, for it would bring customers to his shop to buy books upon which he really made a profit."

"Do you think the terms proposed by Mr. Macmillan fair to the bookseller?"—"Decidedly not. They would place us in a worse position than that which we occupy at present. That's bad enough. No, the person who would benefit by the change is the publisher."

"And you think nothing will come of the suggestion?"—"Nothing. The question is not a new one. It is twenty years old at least, and it has been threshed out again and again. I think it was Bickers who first introduced the discount system. He took off twopence in the shilling. The publishers tried to stop it, but in vain. It grew universal, and then the discount rose to threepence in the shilling."

"Nobody gives more than that, I take it?"—"No bookseller gives more; but the stores undersell us, and so do certain linendrapers. As for the latter I am bound to say that the publishers have no business to supply them. They are not in the trade. But they do it. Messrs. ——, for example, publish a series of reprints at two shillings per volume. We sell it at eighteenpence—that is with a discount of 25 per cent. The drapers get it for 1*s.* 0½*d.* a copy, display it in their windows, and sell it at 1*s.* 3*d.*!"

MR. ALFRED DENNY.

Mr. Alfred Denny, of Booksellers'-row, preferred to express no opinion on Mr. Macmillan's letter. To his mind there was nothing to express any opinion about. No definite scheme had been put forward, but, to use his own expression, the affair was "muddled." He pointed out, however, that a distinction must be made between the large and the small bookseller. The latter might consider Mr. Macmillan's terms fair enough; the former probably would not, for he can, as a rule, make his own terms.

MR. F. CORNISH.

"If the publishers want to put a stop to 'underselling,'" remarked Mr. Cornish (High-Holborn) "they must take action among themselves. They have the remedy in their own hands. Let them all agree to give the booksellers fair terms—10 or 15 per cent., say—and ask them to sell books at published prices. This will ensure what they want, provided, of course, that they *all* band together. Half of them won't do. A combination of that sort was tried some years ago, and it failed. Several of the more conservative houses objected to the 3*d.* in the 1*s.* discount, and agreed to keep up the prices of their books. Other houses, by publishing non-copyright works, were able to offer the bookseller better terms. The result was that the publishers who gave good terms found that their books were pushed, while the works published by the conservative houses gradually ceased to be in demand. After that, of course, they had to come down like the rest."

"Do you think the public would object to net prices?"—"My opinion is that the public would as soon give a shilling for a book as ninepence—provided they could not get it for less. They naturally wish to buy in the cheapest market."

"This is not the first time that an attempt has been made to prevent 'underselling,' I suppose?"—"By no means. Some years ago, for example, the publishers started a ticket system. No one could get books from a publisher at the trade price unless he had a ticket, and every person possessing a ticket was supposed to keep the prices of books above a certain standard. But the ticket system wouldn't work. The other booksellers got hold of the tickets, and obtained their books as before."

"What do you think of the system proposed by Mr. Macmillan?"—"I do not think it will have any practical outcome," replied Mr. Cornish, emphatically.

MR. DAVID STOTT.

Mr. David Stott, of Oxford-street, regards Mr. Macmillan's suggestion with as much disfavour as any other bookseller, though on somewhat different grounds. What about those customers to whom you have to give credit? he asks. Under the present system the purchaser for cash gets a shilling book for ninepence; the customer who expects six months' credit has to pay the full shilling. If all books are to be retailed at the published price, this premium upon cash payments will disappear.

"I don't think the proposed system will work at all in any way," added Mr. Stott. "It may be all very well for the superior class of books—of which so many are published by Macmillan and Longmans—but it will not answer with ordinary books. Mr. Nimmo has tried the system of net prices, and it makes a nice variety; but I question very much if it could be adopted all round. Nor do I think the public would like it."

"For my own part" (continued Mr. Stott), "I have always been in favour of a Booksellers' Institute. I think we ought, all of us, to combine in order to prevent the discount from becoming greater than it now is. The selling price of a book must not be allowed to sink lower. I would even ask those linendrapers to whom you have referred to join us. I think every man who sells a book is in point of fact a bookseller, and by getting them to work with us we should have them more or less under our control."

MESSRS. HATCHARDS.

Messrs. Hatchards' manager did not think Mr. Macmillan's scheme would work. "You can't prevent 'cutting,'" said he. "Suppose we all got twopence in the shilling, and sold our books at the published price. It would not be long before I should find that the man in the next street was offering a shilling book for elevenpence."

"In that case, of course, you would have to report him to the publisher, who would refuse to supply him with any more copies of the book?"—"That system was tried many years ago, but without success. The author interfered, and wanted to know why the publisher refused to supply his books when asked for. The question was referred to arbitration—to Lord Campbell among others, I believe—and it was decided that a publisher could not legally refuse to supply copies of an author's book to any bookseller who might apply for them."

"Then, again, there is the question of credit mentioned by Mr. Stott. The City discount bookseller who does nothing but a cash trade would not feel this. But in the West-end we should have no means of placing the cash purchaser on any different footing to that of the man who took six months' credit. One might charge interest, it is true; but, even if that be not illegal, it is, to say the least of it, a very inconvenient course to adopt."

MR. S. HOGG.

Our representative found Mr. S. Hogg, the Charing-cross discount bookseller equally opposed to the abolition of the present system. "What the publishers should do," he remarked, "is to combine to keep the discount at threepence in the shilling. The selling price of a shilling book ought not to be allowed to sink below ninepence. The stores are really the worst offenders in respect of 'cutting.' They it was who began giving the halfpenny and selling half-crown books at 1*s.* 10½*d.* I found there were lots of people willing to walk from my shop to Bedford-street or the Haymarket for the sake of that halfpenny."

Mr. Hogg did not think that there would be any great difficulty in forming and working such a combination of publishers. He was not in favour of the rigid boycott recommended by one bookseller, for he thought much might be done by moral suasion. The public, he thought, had got so accustomed to the threepence in the shilling that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to refuse to give it now. This discount does not, in Mr. Hogg's opinion, prevent a bookseller, who has his eyes about him, from making a living profit out of the business.

MR. JOHN BUMPUS.

Mr. John Bumpus, of Oxford-street, alone among the dozen booksellers whom our representative has up to the present time visited, is in favour of Mr. Macmillan's scheme. He does not commit himself to details, but he thinks that nothing but charging the full published price for books will put the trade in a flourishing condition again. We believe, however, that Mr. Bumpus would stipulate that the publishers themselves should have no retail trade.

NEW BOOKS.

SOME NEW TALES.

"Maga" is among the oldest of the magazines which relieved the dulness of political and scientific discussion by admitting fiction into their pages, and its short stories have long enjoyed a well-deserved popularity. Volume 6 of the third series of "Tales from Blackwood," which has been recently published, keeps fully up to the mark in point of power, pathos, humour, and sensational incident. "The Last Words of George Barrable" and "Fiddlers Three" are specially delightful reading.

"Soapsuds," by Anne Finch Hatton (H. J. Drane), is a sketch, not less frothy than its title implies, of a love affair, which, after the manner of so many love affairs, develops out of bedside attendance upon an invalid. A melancholy tale called "The Death of the Dead," unrelieved by any cheerful contrasts, is also bound up with the above. Why should people want to add to the miseries of life by concocting lugubrious narratives of unrequited affection and broken hearts? The author is not without an eye for characteristic peculiarities, and possesses fair capacities for novel-writing, but these two stories of hers are exceedingly short, and, as stories go nowadays, certainly not worth sixpence a piece.

Mr. J. E. Muddock has given us in "The Dead Man's Secret" (Chatto and Windus) a tale of daring deeds and hairbreadth 'scapes, such as delighted the hearts of our boyhood. Hans Christian Feldjo, a Swede by extraction but naturalized in England, narrates his adventurous exploits in Ecuador and Western Brazil, among the upper reaches of the Amazon, as, with a party of fellow countrymen and Indians, he struggles through pathless wilds in search of an El Dorado which is to enrich them all beyond the dreams of avarice. The incidents are dramatic and thrilling, and the story is pervaded by a tone of wholesome, manly sentiment which makes it excellent reading for boys, for whose perusal it was, no doubt, mainly written.

Truly the world would, from a social point of view, be a much more amiable and blissful abode, if such people as Aunt Dacie, Major Birt, Mazie Birt, Lucelle McGregor, Dumphie McGregor, and the Rev. Louis Draycott were as plentiful as blackberries amongst us. These are the leading characters in "Louis Draycott: the Story of his Life," by Mrs. Laffan (Chapman and Hall). It is a veritable picture of nestlings in a dovecote, and when its peacefulness is invaded the fluttering is something terrific. Perhaps the pathos is a little overworked, the worship of juvenile humanity carried rather past its limits, and the strain pitched somewhat too uniformly in the minor key; but the book is a charming one of its kind, and may safely be recommended to the severest of family circles.

Orthodoxy versus Atheism, as the leading subject of a novel, is a vein which has been rather overworked of late, and it is scarcely likely that Mr. J. Yule Cleland's "Love and Disbelief" (Roper and Drowley) will meet with more than a limited share of attention. His book is a vindication of the Christian point of view as against Atheism, under the guise of a romance. It is an inherent weakness in fiction of this sort that the points to be proved have to be brought under the reader's notice in the form of argumentative dialogues, often rather tedious, and not seldom reminding one of those compendious catechisms and summaries of religious and other belief which are to be obtained in cheap form of our various propagandist societies. However, Mr. Cleland has evidently thought out his subject well for himself, and if his work succeeds in allaying the doubts even of a few truant souls he will deserve congratulation for his undoubtedly well-meant efforts.

SOME SCHOOL BOOKS.

We have received some useful little volumes from the Pitt Press at Cambridge. The "Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges" is a well-known series which has had a decided success. It is now proposed to follow it up with another, of smaller size, and adapted to the wants of junior classes and elementary schools. The editors of the various books in the larger will also prepare the corresponding parts in the smaller. The volumes now before us are the "First" and "Second Books of Kings," both by Professor Kirkpatrick, and the "Gospel according to St. Matthew," by the Rev. A. Carr. Professor Kirkpatrick is of the more conservative school of Biblical critics. In illustrating, for instance, the Book of Kings, he is inclined to attribute not less than twenty of the Psalms to David. Mr. Carr is one of the best and most thoughtful of the scholars who have worked in the field of Scripture exegesis and illustration, and we are glad to see his work thus popularized. "British India," by E. Carles, M.A., is a volume of the "Pitt Press Series." The author has compressed into the space of a little over a hundred pages a remarkable mass of information. He takes, we see, a favourable view of Warren Hastings' policy.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The most interesting thing in the despatches on the Labour Conference is the direct way in which Prince Bismarck fathers the Emperor's scheme on "The International." After dwelling on the necessity of agreement between all competing countries, the Prince goes on to say:—

> The working classes of the different countries have, in due appreciation of this fact, established international relations aiming at the improvement of their condition. But efforts in this direction cannot meet with success unless the Governments interested endeavour to come to an agreement on the more important question concerning the welfare of the working classes by means of international discussion.

In other words, what the workers recognized when they formed "The International" in 1864, their rulers have come to see just a quarter of a century later!

Surely some practical joker must have been at work in the announcement which appears in all the morning papers that Sir John Gorst is to be delegate-in-chief from Great Britain to the Labour Conference. Sir John Gorst is an able politician, but we never heard that he was a great economist or an authority on labour questions. To send him to a conference which is expressly defined as being "wholly economic and technical, as opposed to political or diplomatic," would be a huge joke—and worse, for it would also be an insult alike to Germany and the Powers which are sending their best men in response to her invitation. Fancy Sir John Gorst having to pose as an economic authority equal to, say, M. Jules Simon!

The verdict of not guilty on all counts which the jury brought in yesterday in the case of Major Isaacs is a satisfactory sign of the times. Not that the young lady is specially entitled to sympathy: for she seems to have had a very shrewd eye for business. Nor that the honourable and gallant member for Walworth is specially deserving of censure: on the contrary, he acted towards the girl whom he had wronged with exceptional liberality. Nevertheless, it is a whole-some thing that men who act as Major Isaacs did should know that the public conscience is against them, and that this conscience, when embodied in the jury box, will take not the most, but the least, lenient view of them that is possible.

We shall wait with interest to see what the medical profession will have to say to the Dr. Coker who cut so sorry a figure in the case. Here is what the Lord Chief Justice said of this gentleman:—

> Neither Dr. Coker nor his evidence were pleasant subjects of contemplation. That he, her trustee and medical man, should be, so to speak, in the other camp, doing all he could to convict this woman, without saying anything to her about it, was conduct which, he hoped, was rare in the medical profession. Thank God, there were few people in the world whom their friends and patients could trust more implicitly than medical men. He said he had made no charge for his services to Mr. Isaacs, and had entered nothing in his attendance book. Who on earth would have expected such entries in an attendance-book? He had made no charge, perhaps; but he admitted that he hoped to be paid by Mr. Isaacs.

It is to be hoped, for the honour of the profession, that some notice will be taken of Lord Coleridge's censure.

The position of the lady members of the London County Council was very materially altered yesterday. Up till now they have been sitting and voting solely on their own responsibility and at their own risk. But yesterday the Council itself, after a sharp debate, decided by 64 to 23 to appoint Miss Cobden upon certain of its committees. That is to say, it definitely took upon its own shoulders a share of that legal risk and responsibility which has hitherto rested undividedly upon the individual ladies themselves. For doing certain work on the Council the ladies are to be prosecuted; but it makes a very great difference that they are now doing it with the mandate of the Council itself, instead of in the exercise of their own sole discretion.

A chance-dropped remark of Lord Bramwell's in last night's debate in the Lords reveals the true inwardness of the agitation for flogging as a punishment for armed burglars. "It was the most serious offence," declared the President of the "Liberty and Property Defence League," "which a man could commit, next to murder." More serious, that is to say, than the offences against girls and children, or the offences against women in which several ruffians are engaged, which in this connection Lord Esher very pertinently recalled, and which any newspaper file shows to be far more rampant. The spirit of Lord Bramwell and his clients is that of the comfortable City magnate immortalized as Matthew Arnold's fellow-traveller in a railway carriage. Any panic legislation, rather than that such pillars of three-per-cent. society should be occasioned qualms of nervousness on getting into bed. These gentlemen would probably favour the restoration of hanging for forgery. Surely if a system of laceration which disgusts the public conscience has to be invoked at all, it will be time to apply it to the burglar caught with a pistol in his pocket when it has first been used to check the wife-beater and worse ruffians already alluded to. But it must never be invoked at all, for one very simple reason—that experience has proved it to be absolutely futile.

Some of your readers have, no doubt, followed with interest (writes a Liverpool correspondent) the varying fortunes of the dock labourers on the Mersey, and are anxiously watching the progress of the present struggle. It may, therefore, be useful for them to know that there are in Liverpool some 35,000 dock labourers, of whom only one-third are members of the union. In London the dockers' strike was perfectly simple in its object, but in Liverpool the changes demanded are at once numerous and complex. The rule at the Liverpool docks is that the working-day begins at 7 A.M. and ends at 5 P.M., one hour being allowed for dinner. The wages have been 4*s.* 6*d.* a day, and 8*d.* an hour for overtime. The men are, however, dissatisfied with the overtime pay. Instead of it being calculated at the rate of 8*d.* an hour, they wish to be paid for a night or half a night, but for no shorter time than half a night. Under the union the hours of work are not to be altered, but if work is carried on during the dinner hour the pay is to be increased to as high as 1*s.* 1*d.* for the hour. The day pay is to be increased to as high as 1*s.* 1*d.* for the hour. The day labourer is to receive 5*s.* a day instead of 4*s.* 6*d.* Night work is to begin at 6 P.M. and end at 4 A.M.; and if the work ends at 10.30 the time is to be reckoned as half a night. Labourers are to have 8*s.* for a whole night's work. If a labourer beginning night work at 6 P.M. should be obliged to continue without rest till after 10.30, his work shall be paid for as a whole night's work; and in such case he shall not be expected to work beyond one o'clock. There are a number of other details, but the above are the salient points involved in the struggle.

FOR THE PEOPLE HUDSON'S SOAP. FOR THE PEOPLE HUDSON'S SOAP. FOR THE PEOPLE HUDSON'S SOAP.

BOOKS, PICTURES, AND BRIC-À-BRAC.

NOTES FROM THE SALE ROOMS.

The most interesting sale that is taking place this week is the dispersal in Messrs. Christie's rooms of Mr. Cornelius Cox's unique collection of wedgwood. It is rarely that such an opportunity has been afforded of looking at such fine specimens. Many of the plaques are most beautiful. Flaxman's designs at their best are here, and the equally though less classical Stothard in his designs may be seen to perfection. The sale extends over Thursday.

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Among the books in Mr. John Jessie's library that come under the hammer at Sotheby's, Wellington-street to-day, is a copy of Meyrick's illustrations of "Ancient Arms and Armour," with Skelton's etchings, and a copy of his "Critical Inquiry into Ancient Armour, as it existed in Europe, from the Norman Conquest to the reign of Charles II." There is also Leigh Hunt's "London Journal," in which he had written under the date September 3, 1835, "To come into the Vale of Clwyd is to realize the dream of books."

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To-day and to-morrow Messrs. Phillips and Son, 73, New Bond-street, devote to the sale of a collection of miscellaneous household furniture that is made up chiefly of the usual requisites. There are also some beautiful cabinets in the sale and any number of drawing-room nick-nacks. Holland is the emporium for the antique. But the rare bits of old blue and old delft that used to come over to London are getting scarcer and scarcer. Still it is not an unusual circumstance now and then to find a fine piece of colour at a reasonable price in Bonham's rooms (65, Oxford-street). A collection is to be sold to-day (Wednesday). There are some fine pieces of marqueterie work, some pieces of blue Oriental, some carved oak cabinets, a few pieces of Empire work, a fine blue Worcester tea service, and one of Lowestoft ware; besides a collection of old cut glass, that used to decorate our grand parents' table, and that is once more becoming the fashion to hold and to have.

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On Thursday it is not books—their usual commodity—that Messrs. Puttick and Simpson offer, but antiques—satin wood cabinets, both of Early English and French workmanship; some specimens from the potteries of Chelsea, Dresden, and Derby for the cabinet, and two panels of tapestry (the latest collectors' craze), and a few miniatures on ivory; bargains many of them should be to the bric-à-brac hunter.

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In the picture world there are "finds" now and then to be secured in Messrs. Robinson and Fisher's rooms, 21, Old Bond-street. They sell to-morrow a miscellaneous collection of pictures and drawings by old masters and modern men. There are some half-forgotten names in the list. Those who would lay in a stock of cigars on reasonable terms might look in at Foster's, Pall-mall, on Thursday. They will sell under the hammer some 6,300 Havannah cigars, including such brands as La Legitimidad, Murias Partagas, and Cabana y Cabajol.

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Friday will be a silversmiths' day at Christie's. A variety of jewels (some fine), a collection of silver plate, and a few miscellaneous plated articles comprise the sale. The most interesting piece, though perhaps not the most costly, is a brooch or pendant, designed by Mr. Burne-Jones. It is in the form of a bird, set with turquoise and coral, a most beautiful combination, and a branch of foliage, enamelled green; the workmanship is that of Giuliano. Some of the silver consists of rare pieces, work of the last century, some bearing the Edinburgh hall mark 1766, others the Newcastle hall mark 1759, and there are some pieces of Spanish and Persian work.

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It is a new circumstance, and it goes to show what an important art it is becoming, that Messrs. Christie's set aside a Saturday afternoon for the sale of water-colours only. This takes place on Saturday. There are some fine specimens of James Hardy, jun's. work: his keepers and their dogs always find ready buyers. To another public appeals the work of Mr. T. Collier—some examples of his realistic out-of-doors drawings, and also of Mr. E. M. Wimperis' work, including three or four of his studies round about Barmouth and in the Welsh valleys. There is also a drawing by Stanfield, "The Pilot House, Dover;" a few David Coxes; some specimens of Mrs. Coleman Angell's highly-finished and brilliant studies of still-life; three or four Copley Fieldings; Keeley Halswelle's "Venice" (1871); and some very fine Duncan's work that is being bought up, and bringing each time it comes under the hammer an increased price. In the collection also are a couple of Sir John Gilbert's—old masters in their way—and an important drawing by Rosa Bonheur, "Les Longs Rochers, Fontainebleau," bearing the date 1875.

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On Monday one of the finest sites in London will be sold by Messrs. Robinson and Fisher at Tokenhouse-yard. It consists of the valuable leasehold investment 2 to 8, Charing-cross, and 1 to 5, Northumberland-avenue, that promises to yield presently some £9,350 per annum. The buildings are the block which looks directly on to Trafalgar-square, and was the temporary home of the National Liberal Club during the building of its own place on the Embankment.

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The library of the late Thomas Oldham Barlow, R.A., will, with some other books, be sold at Christie's next Tuesday. The most interesting items in it are some volumes of drawings by Japanese artists that are good specimens, both in way of colour and of work.

The Ladies' Corner.

THE COST OF SETTING UP HOUSE.

"I asked a well-known West-end furniture man the other day (writes Miss Mantalini) what was the average cost of furnishing a small house. He said that young couples with an income of £300 a year usually lived in an eight-roomed house at £50 a year. They would spend about £200 on furniture.

"'Well, is £200 the lowest you would furnish an eight-roomed house for?'—'We could do it for £150, and go so low as £100. Even £80 would provide furniture for eight rooms, but it would be furniture of the poorest and the cheapest. The lowest price you would get a dining-room suite for would be £12, and there would be £8 for a decent sideboard. In fact a modestly furnished dining-room would cost £30. The drawing-room would have to be very simple. A bit of China matting, a chintz-covered sofa and arm-chair, three or four rush-bottomed, one or two rugs, and an overmantel for £2 10s.—that would be the drawing-room. Twenty pounds would be wanted to furnish the best bedroom complete. Another room could be done for twelve, and another for seven. I don't calculate anything for the servant, because nothing is put in a servant's bedroom but what is barely necessary—that is, a bedstead and bed. Sometimes they are given a cheap washstand."

"What about the kitchen?"—"Oh, the kitchen? That's a very heavy item as a rule, because a woman doesn't like any reflection on her housekeeping. It can't be done for £10, because if a woman takes a pride in her kitchen, it will cost her almost as much as her drawing-room. There is not even a rug in the kitchen, and certainly servants are not provided with Windsor easy chairs. They are not supposed to have any time to sit down."

"Where does the china and glass come from, though?"—"Well, I don't count that, because it is generally provided by friends. The habit of making useful presents of china and glass, and linen, and other things has grown so among the middle classes that a young couple rely on their friends for it. The worst people to furnish for are those young people who have each of their mothers and other friends to help them to choose the things. As fast as one side orders a thing the other side disagrees, and it looks as if the young people were not to be furnished at all."

"Are people always solvent when they furnish?"—"I should say not. Everybody wants a little credit, if it is only for a small balance of the original sum."

☞ FOR THE PEOPLE.
HUDSON'S SOAP.

READERS LEAVING HOME TEMPORARILY can have the PALL MALL GAZETTE forwarded at the following rates:—Two weeks, 2s. 6d.; four weeks, 5s. SATURDAY'S SPECIAL EDITION posted in time for delivery in the COUNTRY on SUNDAY MORNING, forwarded for 8s. 6d. per annum. Address, The Publisher, Pall Mall Gazette Office, Northumberland-street, Strand, W.C.

A FLANK ATTACK.

LAST NIGHT IN THE COMMONS. BY AN OBSERVER.

THE House of Commons delights in personalities, and members had plenty of them last night. During questions a cloud appeared on the horizon in the shape of Lord Randolph Churchill in close consultation with the Speaker. The outcome of this was that immediately after questions Lord Randolph leapt to his feet and, speaking on the motion, opened his flank attack upon the Government. This early rising of the noble lord was a bolt from the blue—and to none more than his personal followers, as afterwards became apparent. The House was now crowded, and the Treasury Bench was as crowded and uncomfortable as the Opposition could desire.

"GHASTLY, BLOODY, ROTTEN."

Lord Randolph began, in a tone of great gravity and solemnity, with a criticism of the unconstitutional nature of the proceedings of the Government from 1888 to 1890. He first attacked the Commission Act. The proceedings on the part of the Constitutional party *par excellence* in regard to that Act included four unconstitutional steps:—(1) They had put aside the law of the land and created one of their own; (2) they had not given the defendants a jury, but had themselves nominated a tribunal to try their political opponents; (3) they had inflicted a penalty in the shape of a large pecuniary fine of £40,000; (4) they had forced the Act upon the Government by a ruthless use of the closure—an "enormous inconsistency" on those who had condemned the closure so vigorously in 1882. "For none of these proceedings can you find any precedent or parallel in English history"—though Lord Randolph went on to very freely compare with them the policy of the Tudors and the Stuarts. And what was the result of this upheaval of the Constitution, of this mountainous perturbation? "A thing, a monster, a reptile—a Pigott." "A Pigott! a Pigott!" echoed the speaker. "A ghastly, bloody, rotten fœtus." These views of his were old—he had drawn them up in 1888, in a memorandum which he had preferred to a speech. And Lord Randolph turned to the "chivalrous gentlemen" behind him and spiritedly defended himself against their imputations of vile motives.

VIOLATING THEIR OWN LAW.

But however unconstitutional the law of 1888, the motion of Mr. Smith was worse. It was a motion to violate their own law. They had set up a tribunal with powers as strong and as independent of Parliament as the Court of Queen's Bench, and now they were setting up the House as a Court of Revision. What judgment would hereafter be independent of the House? "What is to become of justice?" Lord Randolph ended with a telling comparison of the Unionist fortunes when he was leader of the House and now. "If I am to be scorned to-day, I look forward with Mr. Asquith to the day when a future party shall expunge this motion from the annals of the House."

A LULL.

Mr. Chamberlain was the first to answer Lord Randolph. He contended that the results showed that the Government had been justified in creating the court. He admitted that the House was not bound to the *obiter dicta* of the judges on non-essentials, but took away from the virtue of this admission by a laborious and not very effective attempt to revive the charges of "Parnellism and Crime." In the course of this attempt he came into sharp conflict with Mr. T. P. O'Connor, in which he did not get the best of it. He was followed by Mr. Whitbread in a very Harcourtian speech—"a Harcourt minus the bully" is not a bad description of Mr. Whitbread—and then by Mr. Jennings.

THE CAVE IN CHAOS.

Mr. Jennings rose in wrath and shook his spear in a manner which might have alarmed the House if it had not amused it. Mr. Jennings's case was indeed pathetic. He had come down to the House ready prepared for a full-dress debate, which he was to open for himself, with a well-prepared speech, and which Lord Randolph was to second in a strictly subordinate position. The parts, in fact, were to be reversed: Lord Randolph was to be the jackal. But Lord Randolph had broken away from his assiduous managers at the last moment and changed his rôle. Could anything be more annoying? Mr. Jennings could think of no other revenge than to change his rôle also. The revenge was clearly inadequate. Lord Randolph took it with remarkable equanimity; and, curiously enough, the House did not seem in the least distressed by the disruption of the cast, or at the arrival of one of those moments of independence which are crises in Mr. Jennings's parliamentary life. As Mr. Morley afterwards put it, Mr. Jennings gave three reasons for moving his amendment and one for withdrawing it. He then withdrew it. Fired with injured *amour propre*, he turned on Lord Randolph with all the anger of a *mouton enragé*, and bitterly reproached him for his hostility to the Government—a hostility from which he had himself been so free—and for his action in "stabbing the Government in the back." He looked round at the members around him in a somewhat clumsy way and sat down amid suppressed amusement. The cave was gone; and Mr. Jennings will now wander through space like a detached satellite which has quarrelled with the sun that gave it light.

AGRICULTURE SHEDS ITS LIGHT.

Mr. Chaplin's rise was greeted with a universal oh! and an exodus into the Lobbies which left the House almost deserted. His speech clearly showed that he possesses one quality or the aristocrat—that of forgetting everything and learning nothing—and was chiefly remarkable for the material which it gave to Mr. Labouchere, who consoled us during the dinner-hour with some excellent table-talk. Mr. De Lisle then moved his amendment in a speech which reminded one of the Papal lamentations over the statue of Giordano Bruno. He traced the present state of affairs entirely to the admission of Mr. Bradlaugh into the House. It would be too tedious to describe how he arrived at that cabalistic conclusion. As no one would second his amendment, it dropped.

A FINAL DUEL.

A slashing speech from Mr. T. P. O'Connor brought up Mr. Goschen, who almost made the Attorney-General weep by his piteous deprecation of the attack made upon him. Perhaps, indeed, the attack has been concentrated rather too exclusively on his devoted head. At any rate, Mr. Goschen seemed quite angry at his own immunity. Turning to Lord Randolph, Mr. Goschen justified the Commission Court as having been demanded by the Irish, and the motion as being similar to those acknowledging election petitions. He then attacked the Opposition violently for their palliation of crime in the debate, and waxed indignant over the "fearful confession" of Mr. Gladstone that the Act of 1881 was passed by agitation and outrage. "I said it would not have been possible without," retorted the old man, in great excitement. "What a lesson to teach the people of this Empire!" &c. He ended up with a savage attack on Irish journalism, which he declared to be far worse than the *Times*. Mr. Morley rose at 11.30 P.M. in great form, and compressed a number of telling aphorisms into his half-hour. As for the causation of land laws by agitation, the Tory party had "never taught the Irish any other lesson." Mr. Balfour had promised twenty years of resolute government: was "that dirty organ the *Times*" to "lift up its head and lie" for twenty years? After an attempt by Mr. Byron Reed to emerge from obscurity, Mr. Smith moved the closure. It was accepted, and the division on the amendment showed 259 for and 321 against. A further reduction of the Government majority from 71 to 62—a fall of nine. Mr. Caine and Lord Randolph were loudly cheered as they marched into the same lobby with the Opposition.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

COLWALL, JAMES. "The Coombsberrow Mystery." (Cassell and Co.)
[A novel in one volume. Boards. Pp. 226. Price 2s.]

DAVIDSON, HUGH COLEMAN. "The Queen of the Black Hand." (Trischler and Co.)
[A story in one volume. Cloth. Pp. 260.]

EDMONDS, CHARLES (Editor). "Poetry of the Anti-Jacobin." (Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.)
[Political and satirical poems by Canning, Frere, Pitt, Wellesley, Clifford, and others. Edited with introduction, notes, and complete index. Third edition, with six illustrations by Gilray. Cloth. Pp. xxviii., 342.]

"The Australian Handbook, Shippers and Importers' Directory, and Business Guide for 1890." (London: Gordon and Gotch.)
[Cloth. Pp. 571. Maps.]

☞ FOR THE PEOPLE.
HUDSON'S SOAP.

MINISTERS AS COMPANY DIRECTORS.

THE prominent part which Lord Mayor Isaacs has taken in joint stock ventures since his accession to office has been regarded in some quarters as not in keeping with the traditions of the ancient office. We might suggest that this view of what is due to the Mayoralty of the City of London applies with equal if not greater force to members of the Government. The old understanding that appointment to a responsible office was to be followed by resignation of directorships in public companies is now more honoured in the breach than in the observance. We could give cases in which members on their appointment to office have resigned directorships which brought them in as much as their official salaries. Now it appears to be the custom not only to hold on to the posts they occupy at the time of their elevation, but even to accept fresh appointments. A very small minority indeed of the official members of the present Government are unrepresented in the joint-stock world; while a few are on so many boards that it is a mystery how they can discharge their public duties and attend to their multifarious engagements. Any neglect of the latter is not, of course, the concern of the public; but they have a right to inquire as to the former, and, what is of more importance, how it is possible to represent the two interests when they clash, as they must frequently do. A member of the Government, whether a Law Officer, a Secretary of State or an Under-Secretary, with a position on the boards of a number of companies, must at times find his public duty and private interest at variance. It is right to say that a few of the directorships set out below may be termed territorial or family appointments, the holders being the natural heads and trustees of the institutions. To such neutral appointments there is not that objection which may be very properly urged to the holding of the position of director of half a dozen or more indiscriminate commercial and financial ventures. The list which we give is mainly compiled from Skinner's admirably-arranged "Directory of Directors," and obviously it does not include the private companies in the direction of which members of the Government may be engaged:—

Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, £10,000.
University Life Assurance Society.

Lord Halsbury, Lord Chancellor, £10,000.
North Cornwall Railway Company.

Sir R. E. Webster, Attorney-General, £7,000.
Law Debenture Corporation (trustee).

Lord Knutsford, Colonial Secretary, £5,000.
Grand Junction Waterworks Company.
Law Life Assurance Society.

Viscount Cross, Secretary of State for India, £5,000.
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway.

Marquis of Lothian, Secretary for Scotland.
Edinburgh Life Assurance Company (vice-president).
National Bank of Scotland (governor).

Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty, £4,500.
English Bank of the River Plate.
Pelican Life Insurance Company.

Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, President of the Board of Trade, £2,000.
County of Gloucester Bank.
East Gloucestershire Railway Company (chairman).

Mr. A. J. Balfour, Irish Secretary, £4,425.
Bank of Scotland (extraordinary director).

Mr. Cecil Raikes, Postmaster-General, £2,500.
Equity and Law Life Assurance Society.
Law Reversionary Interest Society (deputy-chairman).
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad Company (voting trustee).
Newport, Abercarn Black Vein Steam Coal Company (chairman).
New Rhyl (trustee).

Mr. C. T. Ritchie, President of Local Government Board, £2,000.
Shaw, Savill, and Albion Company (chairman).
Union Bank of London.

Sir W. Hart-Dyke, Vice-President of Council, £2,000.
Eagle Insurance Company.
Kent Waterworks Company.

Mr. D. R. Plunket, First Commissioner of Works, £2,000.
Bank of Egypt.
London and North Western Railway Company.
Ottoman Railway Company (president).

Hon. S. Herbert, Junior Lord, £1,000.
Santa Fé Land Company.

Sir H. Maxwell, Junior Lord, £1,000.
Union Mortgage Banking and Trust Company (trustee).

Mr. W. L. Jackson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, £2,000.
Great Northern Railway Company.
Leeds and County Conservative Club-House Company (chairman).

Mr. A. Akers-Douglas, Political Secretary to the Treasury, £2,000.
Exchange and Hop Warehouse.
Lambeth Waterworks Company.
London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company.

Sir W. T. Marriott, Judge-Advocate General, £2,000.
Brighton and Sussex Union Fire Insurance Company (chairman).
Canadian (Direct) Meat Company (chairman).
West Moodie's Gold (in liquidation).
Mexican Mineral Railway (trustee).
Commercial Union Brewery Investment Corporation (trustee).

Sir W. B. Forwood, Secretary to the Admiralty, £2,000
(of Leech, Harrison, and Forwood).
Bank of Liverpool.
Cunard Steamship Company.
Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation.
International Investment Trust (trustee)
Liverpool Overhead Railway (chairman).
London and New York Investment Corporation.
Trustees, Executors, and Securities Insurance Corporation.

Mr. E. Ashmead-Bartlett, Civil Lord of the Admiralty, £1,000.
Nitrate Railway Company.

Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Parliamentary Secretary to Board of Trade, £1,500.
Bank of Scotland (deputy governor).
National Bank of Scotland (extraordinary director).

Mr. Walter Long, Parliamentary Secretary Local Government Board, £1,500.
Bath Brewery (chairman).
Equitable Society.

Sir James Fergusson, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, £1,500.
Bank of New Zealand.
Colonists' Land and Loan Corporation.
Eagle Insurance Company.
London and Australian Debenture Corporation (chairman).
Metropolitan Coal Company of Sydney (chairman).
New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency.
Waikato Land Association.

Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, £1,500.
University Life Assurance Society.

Sir John E. Gorst, Under-Secretary for India, £1,500.
New Zealand Shipping Company (chairman).

Hon. W. St. John Brodrick, Financial Secretary to War Office, £1,500.
Alliance Bank.
Brazilian Submarine Telegraph Company.
Guarantee Society.
Rock Life Assurance Society.

Mr. M. T. S. Darling, Solicitor-General for Scotland, £955.
Edinburgh American Land Mortgage Company.
Scottish Provident Institution.

Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Lord Steward, £2,000.
Plymouth, Devonport, and South Western Junction Railway (chair).

Earl of Lathom, Lord Chamberlain, £2,000.
New Oxley (Canada) Ranche Company.
Savoy Hotel.

Lord Arthur Hill, Comptroller of the Household, £904.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.
Union Mortgage, Banking, and Trust Company (president).

Viscount Lewisham, Vice-Chamberlain, £920.
Exchange and Hop Warehouses.

Earl of Hopetoun, Lord-in-Waiting, £702.
Bank of Scotland (extraordinary director).

Lord Elphinstone, Lord-in-Waiting, £702.
British North Borneo Company.
Scottish American Investment Company.

Earl of Kintore, Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, £1,000.
Great North of Scotland Railway.

☞ FOR THE PEOPLE.
HUDSON'S SOAP.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

NOTICES.

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Announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths are inserted for 5*s. each.*

SAVOY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, the entirely original Comic Opera in Two Acts, entitled THE GONDOLIERS, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. Doors open at 8. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open daily from 9 a.m. till 11 p.m.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—GRAND FLORAL EXHIBITION THIS DAY and TO-MORROW. In addition to the usual attractions, splendid spring display of Flowers. Admission as usual one shilling, children sixpence. Doors open at 11 A.M., close at 11.30 P.M.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—THIS DAY.—PROGRAMME at 3 and 8.—Ella Zoila and Lulu. Heroines of the Loop (20 feet high and 360 feet round), the Three Wonderful Haytors in their fantastic dances; the Remarkable Wartenberg Troupe (wire walking, conjuring, and Chinese sports combined); Little Mozart, unrivalled juvenile concert; Professor Baker's Naval Spectacle, "The Monsoon"; Herr Schalkenbach with his Mysterious Electric Cabinet; Fred Emerson, the Champion Weight Lifter of America, who has challenged Samson and Sandow; The Barnes, Humorous Ballet and Pantomimic Troupe; Howlett's Amusing Marionettes; Ferguson's Sisters, remarkable examples of animal training; Dr. Onofroff, the celebrated Thought Reader; the Trochadero Quartette; Refined Vocalists; Mollie Corn, Trick Bicyclist; Professor Cross, Physiologist, at 2.30 and 7.15; Grand Organ Recitals at intervals; Royal Aquarium Orchestra, etc.; Beckwith's Aquatic Entertainment at 5.30 and 9.30, in the Annexe; &c., &c., &c.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PANORAMA OF THE GREAT FALLS. Lounge, Music, Stereoscopic Views of all America. Cheap Restaurant. Open daily. Free admission. Electric Light. Building properly warmed. Admission 1s. Tickets at libraries and hotels. No fees. 19 and 20, WATER-LOO-STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station. Second Year. One Million Visitors.

ART GALLERIES.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY.—For particulars of the NEXT EXHIBITION apply at once to the SECRETARY, 6B, Great Marlborough-street, London, W.

SPORTS AND ARTS EXHIBITION.—GROSVENOR GALLERY, NEW BOND-STREET, W. NOW OPEN. Ten to Seven. Admission 1s.

TUDOR EXHIBITION.—Patron, H.M. the QUEEN; Vice-Patron, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES. NOW OPEN. NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET. 10 to 6. Admission 1s. Hon. HAROLD DILLON, Secretary.

THE BRAZILIAN BANKING LAWS.

A Reuter's telegram from Rio de Janiero says:—The decree of the Minister of Finance issued yesterday modifying the banking laws has given rise to an angry newspaper polemic. It is contended by the opponents of the Ministerial financial policy that great confusion may be expected to result from the operation of the new measure.

SHOCKING DEATH OF A BOOKING CLERK.

This morning the body of a booking clerk named Charles Ball, employed at Newstead railway station, Birmingham, was found on the line between Birmingham and Aston cut to pieces in a most shocking manner. The head was separated from the body. He is supposed to have committed suicide.

SPANISH TO BE TAUGHT AT OXFORD.

It is proposed by the curators of the Taylor Institution at Oxford to establish a teachership of the Spanish language in the University immediately after Easter, the proposed salary being £200 per annum, and it is understood that the approval of Convocation will not be withheld.

THE NEW LORD IN WAITING.

Lord De Ramsey, who has just been appointed a Lord-in-Waiting to the Queen, is a brother-in-law of Lord Randolph Churchill. He sat in Parliament for Huntingdonshire as "Bill Fellowes," and was popular alike with political friends and foes. The family of Fellowes has many ramifications, all extremely rich. Lord De Ramsey's estates lie in Huntingdonshire and Norfolk.

AMONG THE SCANDINAVIANS.

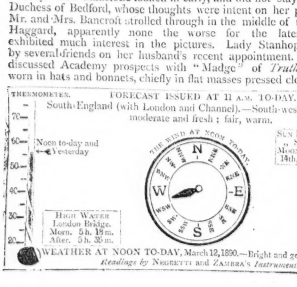
At the Scandinavian Club last night, in its club in Finsbury-square, a large company was gathered together to do honour to Mdme. Backer Grondahl and the memory of Ole Bull. The evening opened with some music—dainty morceaux by Grieg, prettily played by Mdme. Grondahl, fiddling on Ole Bull's famous violin by his son Alexander, and songs by Mdlle. Meyer and a Bull baritone, and recitations by Miss Dell Thompson in pure American. Supper and dancing followed. One of the most unusual courses of this evening meal was *pomme de terre au naturel*, and another—smoked *cheese*, with which cod, from the coast of Norway, and roast beef were served. The various courses were relieved by speeches in Norwegian and English by Mr. Alexander Ole Bull and two others. Seldom can visitors have passed a pleasanter evening.

SALE OF MR. COX'S OLD WEDGWOOD.

Yesterday Messrs. Christie and Co. continued at their rooms, King-street, St. James's, the sale of the remarkable collection of old wedgwood, the property of the late Mr. Cornelius Cox, of Hampstead. The best prices were as follows:—A blue and white jasper vase, with scroll handles and with the nine Muses and Apollo on granulated ground with helix ornament, £51 (Morton). A similar vase, with figure of Joy on cover, £80 (Rhodes). A pair of vases, with scroll handles, each with two oval medallions of Sappho, £44 (Rhodes). Green and white jasper:—A pair of vases with lion's head and plaited mane handles, with a group of three female figures and a sacrificial group, £71 (Hodgkins). A vase with mask handles with the nine Muses and frieze of white acanthus leaves, £60 (Rathbone). A vase, of Etruscan form, with Flaxman's "Blindman's Buff" and honeysuckle ornament, £75 15s. (Rathbone). A vase with pierced cover containing three bulb-holders, with Apollo and the nine Muses, £51 (Rhodes). A set of three vases, with mask handles with sacrificial groups, and stopping the car of Venus, £36 2s. (Hodgkins). A pair of vases, each with two reliefs of Cupid in a chariot drawn by rams, lions, griffins, and antelopes, £69 6s. (Rhodes). Decorative objects:—Trays in grey, discussed as lots. Groups of the Kendals with Lady Monckton, who was beautifully dressed in dark blue velvet, relieved with a paler shade of blue that harmonized very sweetly. Mr. Gladstone looked in early, and did not stay long. More did the Duchess of Bedford, whose thoughts were intent on her prospective reception. Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft strolled through in the middle of the day. Mr. Rider Haggard, apparently none the worse for the latest attack on him, exhibited much interest in the pictures. Lady Stanhope was congratulated by several friends on her husband's recent appointment. Mrs. Jopling Rowe discussed Academy prospects with "Madge" of *Truth*. Violets were much worn in hats and bonnets, chiefly in flat masses pressed close to the head.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER

South-England (with London and Channel).—South-westerly breezes, moderate and fresh; fair, warm.



WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, March 12, 1890.—Bright and genial; light airs.

Readings by NEGRETTI AND ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

FOURTH EDITION.

THE EXPLOSION IN THE MORFA COLLIERY.

MESSAGE FROM THE QUEEN.

NO HOPE FOR THE 100 MEN IN THE PIT.

DEATH OF A VOLUNTEER.

Telegraphing this morning, a correspondent says:—The workmen engaged in the removal of falls have made no inconsiderable progress during the night, and it is now expected twenty bodies will be got out to-day. This may seem but small work, considering that the explosion occurred on Monday and that the number in the pit exceeds at any rate 100, but the exceptional difficulties, including the constantly occurring falls, must be taken into account.

HOPE ABANDONED.

The weary waiting at the mouth of the pit was relaxed last night. The wretched women and children, worn out with anxiety and suspense, have now become resigned, and they no longer linger on the bank in a state of feverish expectation. Those who miss relatives—whether husbands, brothers, or sons—take it for granted that they will never see them again, for the last vestige of hope has been abandoned, and no one expects that any more of the colliers will be recovered alive.

THE HEAVY RISK TO THE EXPLORERS.

The explorers continue their work, but in some instances with perhaps a little less vigour than formerly, for physical fatigue is telling upon them, while the death of the poor man Brownsill, which occurred late last night, has had a somewhat discouraging effect. Brownsill, it will be remembered, in his eagerness to aid his comrades, ventured into the foulest air. He was left behind for dead, but yesterday was found alive. He was brought to the bank and conveyed to the hospital, where his wife, who had regarded herself as a widow, joyfully embraced him. His injuries, however, were more than life could bear, and late last night he quietly passed away.

THE DANGER FROM FIRE.

An exploring party who arrived on the bank at a quarter to eight this morning, after being below several hours, reported that they had succeeded in extinguishing a quantity of brattice which was found on fire in the pit. These discoveries of fire are causing the greatest alarm, for which there appears good ground when it is remembered that on the occasion this mine became all aflame and had to be flooded and temporarily abandoned.

A MANAGER MISSING WHO HAD BEEN IN TWENTY EXPLOSIONS.

Among the missing are Mr. W. Barras, the under-manager, and Morris, the overman. Barras has been in an extraordinary number of explosions—no less than twenty—and in the last explosion at the Morfa, twenty years ago, was, to use the the phrase adopted by one who saw him, literally "skinned" by the fire. He, however, recovered to eventually meet his death in the same mine.

MESSAGE FROM THE QUEEN AND THE MINE SECRETARY.

Messages of inquiry and sympathy were yesterday received from the Queen, and the latest intelligence was at night telegraphed to her Majesty at Windsor Castle. Telegraphic inquiries for further particulars were also received from the Lord Mayor and several members of Parliament. In the course of the day a telegram was received by the Mines Inspector from the Home Office, in which sender was desired "to say that no effort must be spared to make an effectual investigation of the causes of the accident. State if you wish to have the assistance of one of your colleagues in dealing with the circumstances of the accident."

THE INQUEST.

The inquest on the dead will be opened at Aberavon to-morrow. Nearly all the men at the colliery belonged to the Miners' Provident Fund. Coming so soon after the Llanerch disaster, to meet which a capitalized sum of £29,000 is required, this new calamity means an intense strain upon the resources of the fund, and outside help will be badly wanted. At the meeting of the Monmouthshire and South Wales Colliery proprietors yesterday, it was resolved to vote £1,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE IN A NEW YORK TRAMCAR.

A JEWELLER IN DANGER OF LOSING HIS SATCHEL FIRES AT THE CONDUCTOR, AND CREATES A PANIC.

An extraordinary scene (says a Dalziel cablegram) occurred yesterday in one of the New York tramcars. A jeweller's traveller named Nolan left his satchel behind him on alighting at his destination. He soon discovered his loss, and running after the car, demanded the satchel, which contained a quantity of valuable jewellery, from the conductor. The latter hesitated, apparently not recognizing Nolan as the owner, and this infuriated the jeweller, for he drew a revolver and fired point blank at the conductor. The bullet missed its aim and lodged in the woodwork of the car, which was filled with passengers. A panic ensued, and a desperate struggle was made by the frightened men and women for the door, the shrieks of one woman who was knocked down and trampled on being appalling. Meanwhile the man Nolan was arrested flourishing the revolver like a maniac, and he and his satchel together with the conductor were taken away in a patrol waggon. An enormous crowd had collected on the scene, and fists were freely shaken at Nolan. It required some considerable sternness on the part of the police to restore order.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND CLIMBING POLITICIANS.

A CENSURE ON "MEDDLING JOURNALISTS."

Cardinal Taschereau, the Archbishop of Quebec, has issued a pastoral letter to the clergy and faithful of the diocese on the subject of the relations between Church and State in Canada and the duties of Christians. He inveighs against the attempt to drag the Catholic Church into political disputes, and says the Church despises and discountenances those politicians who seek to use her as the steps of a ladder whereby they may climb into power and obtain influence for their own selfish purposes. Their action is equivalent to a usurpation of the rights of the Church. His Eminence says: Let the Church govern herself without interference from the State. The conduct of journalists who undertake to meddle with ecclesiastical matters is pronounced to be scandalous.—*Dalziel's Cable Agency.*

AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST TO BE CHARGED WITH THE MURDER OF AN EX-CONGRESSMAN.

Mr. Taulbee, the Kentuckian ex-Congressman, who was shot by Mr. Kincaid for pulling the latter's nose, died at five o'clock yesterday morning, after lying for several hours in a state of unconsciousness. His assailant is under arrest, and will be charged with murder. His counsel will plead that the fatal shot was fired in self-defence.—*Dalziel.*

A BIG JOB IN CANADA FOR M. EIFFEL.

Mr. Mercier, the Premier of the Province of Quebec, is about to introduce a resolution in the Legislative Assembly in favour of building a bridge across the St. Lawrence from Quebec to Levis Town, the terminus of the Levis and Kennebec Railway and of a branch of the Grand Trunk Railway. Mr. Mercier, who is noteworthy as the leader of the French party in Canada, has offered M. Eiffel the post of engineer of this undertaking, and M. Eiffel has consented to act in this capacity if the province of Quebec will guarantee the interest upon a capital sum of £600,000.—*Dalziel.*

AMERICAN-IRISH CONGRATULATIONS FOR ST. PANCRAS.

The Municipal Council of the Irish National League of America has passed a resolution recording the great satisfaction of Home Rule Irishmen in America at the result of the recent English elections, particularly at North St. Pancras.—*Dalziel's Cable Agency.*

AN AMERICAN ARTIST ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Art circles at Boston (says a Dalziel cablegram) are deeply stirred by the reported attempt at suicide on the part of Frank Tompkins, an artist of high repute, whose pictures are always in demand here. Tompkins has been in a depressed condition lately, and yesterday he fired a bullet into his skull. The wound, however, is not likely to prove fatal.

It is stated that an appointment has practically been made to the See of Durham, but that the name will not be known for a day or two.

The Church Missionary Society, with a rising income, spends less on the management of its home affairs than it has in recent years.

NOTES FROM BERLIN.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

You will have heard some months ago that the Emperor takes fencing lessons every day. I am now in a position to tell you why he does so. It is not for mere love of the sport, but for medical reasons. He suffers sometimes from difficult breathing—a difficulty which riding on horseback rather increases than diminishes. His medical advisers have, therefore, suggested daily exercise at fencing.

Though the "Chancellor Crisis" is said to be over, active negotiations are going on with the several States as to the substitution of a Reichsministerium for the Chancellorship. I am told on good authority that the question will hardly be settled for six or seven weeks. In the meantime all conjectures as to the functions and the persons of the new Ministers are superfluous, though it is probable that the power will be divided between three Ministers of equal rank—namely, Foreign Minister (Herbert Bismarck?), War Minister (Count Waldersee), Treasury (Von Bötticher?).

Pastor Stoecker has again appeared on the scene, as you will know. This is taken here as a proof of what the Catholic papers maintain—that the Emperor will chose the alliance of the Conservatives and Centre and try to paralyze the Freisinnige by means of Anti-Semitism. If so, the only change from the era of Puttkamer's will consist in the altered attitude towards Socialism, which the Emperor is determined to win over.

THE ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

MAYORS AND TOWN CLERKS IN CONFERENCE AT THE GUILDHALL.

The Council Chamber at the Guildhall was well filled this morning by members of the Association of Municipal Corporations, the occasion being the seventeenth annual meeting. As many as 210 towns are represented—chiefly by mayors and town clerks—in the association, which acts as a watch dog in connection with all parliamentary and other measures that affect municipal interests generally. The Lord Mayor (prior to acting as returning officer in the aldermanic election to-day) opened the proceedings with an invitation to the delegates to partake of the Mansion House hospitality, and a motion (which was seconded by Mr. George Morris, town clerk of Leeds), that Sir Albert Rollit, M.P., should be president for the ensuing year. Sir Albert, being duly elected, took the chair, and returned thanks for the honour done him, paying a compliment to his predecessor, Mr. Woodall, M.P. He observed that it was the burghers of old who laid won the representative institutions which distinguish our countries to-day, and the decline of the municipal spirit was a sure forerunner of the decay of political institutions; and denounced the theory that civic life was only to be regarded as a vestibule to wider areas. On the proposition of the Mayor of Manchester, seconded by Sir John Pulestos, M.P., cordial thanks were accorded Mr. Woodall for his services during his four years' presidency. It may be mentioned, as a proof of the non-political character of the association, that Mr. Alderman Thomas Roe, M.P. for Derby was elected (on the motion of the town clerk of Nottingham, seconded by Mr W. J. Fraser, of London) as vice-president. Mr. Roe has been a member of the Derby Corporation without interruption for thirty-two years. After various alterations in the rules of the association had been made, the annual report was received. This document gives a digest of the legislation of 1889, and the association's action upon it, and other questions; shows that the total receipts for the year had been £1,151, a balance of £301 remaining on the right side. The appointment of the Lord Mayor as treasurer of the association was confirmed and then the members of the new council and law committee were chosen. The programme included motions on the Urban Sanitary Authorities (Further Powers) Bill; Town Holdings; the Local Government Act, 1888; Waterworks Assessment; the Trust Investment Act, 1889; the Public Health Act 1875 (Roads); and the County Electors Act, 1888.

ALARMING FLOODS IN AMERICA.

Despatches received at New York up to 2 A.M. report serious floods in Missouri, Illinois, and Kentucky. Many farms are submerged, and hundreds of persons have been driven from their homes by the rising waters.—*Dalziel.*

BREAKING OF A LAKE NEAR ARKANSAS.

A lake broke at Sappington Hoop, near Arkansas City, at three o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The crevasse was 40 ft. wide, and is still widening. Reports received last night state that within twenty-four hours the whole of the river front from the crevasse to the Louisiana line will be flooded. The whole of the Tensas basin of Louisiana, consisting of four or five parishes, will unquestionably be completely submerged. The river at Arkansas is rising rapidly, and the people are panic-stricken.

NO CHANCE OF AN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY RACE

Mr. Hale, captain of the Yale College crew, says there is no chance of an international boat-race this year or in the near future between the Yale and the English University crews. He points out that for a Yale crew to undertake a contest in English waters would entail upon them the loss of a whole college year, besides the labour and expense involved.—*Dalziel's Cable Agency.*

THE BERLIN LABOUR CONFERENCE.

A Central News telegram from Paris says:—In addition to the delegates already appointed to take part in the Berlin Labour Conference, three experts have been nominated to watch the proceedings. These are M. La Poen, an inspector, under two directors-general of manufactures of the State; M. Jacquet, the French Consul at Leipzig; and M. Le Pon, chief of the Cabinet of the President of the Senate. The delegates will depart for Berlin on Thursday.

MR. JUSTICE KAY TO REST.

Mr. Justice Kay, after a consultation with his doctor yesterday, has determined to rest from his judicial duties until after Easter.

THE MURDER OF AN ENGLISHMAN IN AMERICA.

Mrs. Birchall is a prisoner in a boarding-house, as her physician has declared that to put her in gaol at the present time would be to wreck her health, and perhaps deprive her of reason. Birchall is taking things calmly in his quarters at the Welland Gaol. A sensation is predicted in the court-room to-morrow when they meet face to face for the first time since the serious developments of the last few days.

MR. JOHN BURNS'S ATTACK ON THE TZAR.

It is said that several communications have passed between London and the Continent with regard to the very reprehensible remark concerning the life of the Tzar which Mr. John Burns was reported to have used on Sunday in Hyde Park. The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says that Mr. Burns denies the accuracy of the reports which have appeared, and is prepared to deny that he used words which have been the subject of congratulation from some of the extreme enemies of the Russian Government and of severe complaints in other quarters.

CATTLE BURNED TO DEATH IN DORSET.

A fire broke out last night on the farm premises of Mr. Shuttler, of South Perrott, Dorsetshire. A large cow-shed, in which were stalled sixteen cows and four calves, was destroyed, and all the animals were burned to death while chained to their stalls. The farm dwelling and the dairy-house were also destroyed.

A SCOTCH STEAMER COLLIDES WITH AN ICEBERG.

The steamer *North Cambria*, Captain Roberts, from Troon, Scotland, has arrived at Baltimore, U.S., with two of her bow plates stove in. The damage was caused by collision with an iceberg. In lat. 45 deg. 11 min. N., long. 47 deg. 31 min., she passed two bergs, and the next morning, while a thick fog prevailed, she came into collision with one.—*Dalziel.*

"THE FAVOURITE OF THE KING."

We have received the following from Mr. C. A. Lee:—"As composer of the incidental music of 'The Favourite of the King,' now being acted in a series of matinées at the Comedy Theatre, I desire to disclaim responsibility for the music as performed, my work having been almost throughout seriously altered without my authority and in spite of my protest."

Mr. David James is suffering so severely with an affection of the eyes that he has had to give up his part at the Criterion.

Lieutenant Stairs, R.E., and Surgeon Parke, of the Army Medical Staff, will receive the honour of Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

At to-morrow's sitting of the Dominion House of Commons Mr. Wilson will question the Government regarding the reports of distress among the Scotch crofters settled in the north-west.—*Dalziel.*

LORD RANDOLPH'S CUP OF WATER.

PAINFUL SCENE IN THE HOUSE LAST NIGHT.

"The most striking, the most memorable, the most tragic incident in the House of Commons last night," says the *Star*, "runs the risk of not being recorded. Lord Randolph Churchill is like most great Parliamentarians in going through much physical and mental disturbance before he makes a speech of importance. When he rose last night his face was drawn, his hand slightly shook, and there was that sickly yellow in his complexion that betokens extreme nervousness. It was not wonderful under such circumstances that he should soon stand in need of a glass of water to moisten his parched tongue; but it is not easy to get a glass of water on the Tory benches for a man who happens to be no longer a *persona grata* to the people in power. Will it be believed that several Tory members refused in succession to do this simplest of natural kindness? But so it was. Man after man refused to move from his place."

Sir John Colomb (adds the *Star*) openly announced his refusal to get the glass of water. There were loud cries of shame and disgust from the Irish benches at this hideous exhibition. For a while it looked as if Lord Randolph would have had to get to the end of his speech without even so much as one friendly and kind hand to do for him the office of kindness. Mr. Baumann, to his credit be it said, got up from his seat, walked down the floor of the House—looking very pale and nervous but resolute—and brought back a glass of water amid the cheers of the benches opposite. Lord Randolph Churchill said something which was not audible as he received the glass. The *New York Herald* to-day makes the words. They were, "I hope I don't compromise you." Altogether it is the most painful scene that has occurred in the House of Commons in the present generation.

It is reported that, bending down to the Treasury Bench whilst Mr. Jennings was speaking, the noble lord was heard to say, "I wish you joy of my deserter," and the mirthful countenance of the supporters of the Ministry showed how they enjoyed the discomfiture of the "cave."

LORD RANDOLPH AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

"Lord Randolph Churchill," writes the London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post*, "will have to reckon with his constituents, who have already been made furious by his repeated acts of hostility to the Government. He gets in again at South Paddington he will not be returned by Conservative votes. A solemn league and covenant has been entered into between all the influential men in the constituency not to entertain him at any price, and they will keep their word."

CABINET MINISTERS' WIVES AS WHIPS.

"The Government and their Whips," says the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*, "might justly be arraigned on the charge of intimidating and coercing many of their followers. The pressure which has been put upon members supposed to be inclined to support Mr. Jennings's amendment has been severe. Ministers have privately lectured recalcitrant followers, and social influences of the most powerful kind have been brought into play. The wives of Cabinet Ministers have for the time become party whips, and have used all their power to coax and wheedle reluctant Members to vote against Mr. Jennings's amendment. These tactics have not been without result, and some gentlemen who yesterday talked bravely of going into the lobby against the Government now speak of merely abstaining."

THE PIGOTT-SALISBURY CORRESPONDENCE.

The Central News learns that the late Richard Pigott wrote to Lord Salisbury stating that he was in a position to smash up the Irish Home Rule party, and asking to be afforded opportunities through the Government of doing so. The Prime Minister replied through his private secretary, acknowledging the receipt of Pigott's communication, and declining to interfere.

MR. JAMES STEPHENS.

The *Freeman's Journal* says:—Mr. James Stephens, the Fenian leader of 1867, in a letter to a friend in Dublin, expresses his keen satisfaction at the triumph of Mr. Parnell over the *Times*.

LIBERALS TO ENTERTAIN THE PARNELLITES.

A number of Liberals in London have set on foot a proposal to entertain all the Parnellite members of the House of Commons at a banquet some time before the close of the parliamentary session. An effort will be made to obtain a hall in the metropolis capable of accommodating a thousand diners.

SIR THOMAS ESMONDE'S SUCCESS.

Sir Thomas Esmonde, who has arrived at New Orleans from San Francisco by the South Pacific Railway *en route* for New York, states that during his tour in the Australian colonies he succeeded in collecting a sum of £30,000 in aid of the Irish cause.—*Dalziel.*

SUPPLEMENTARY NAVAL ESTIMATE.

A supplementary estimate of the navy for the year ending the 31st inst. is issued to-day. The amount required is £350,000. The sum of £155,000 is for small arms and miscellaneous, £125,000 for projectiles and ammunition, £65,000 for guns, and £9,000 for torpedoes and gun-cotton; from the total there is a deduction of £4,000 under appropriations in aid. In an explanatory note it is remarked that "the productive powers of the country have made such substantial progress in the manufacture of ordnance and ordnance stores as to enable the pressing requirements of the fleet to be met earlier than was anticipated, and the outstanding liabilities to be reduced."

THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN'S CASE.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is devoting every spare moment to the consideration of his judgment in the case of Read and Others *v.* the Bishop of Lincoln. Those who know the bent of his Grace's mind on the subject (writes a correspondent) declare that both parties to the litigation are certain to be successful. While Dr. King will be acquitted on some of the charges, he is certain to be condemned on others, and admonished not to repeat the offences, an admonition which will be loyally respected as coming from the head of the Church in his province. It is the intention of the Archbishop to deliver his judgment as soon after Easter week as possible.

LADIES' RESIDENTIAL CHAMBERS (LIMITED).

The third meeting of shareholders of the Ladies' Residential Chambers (Limited) was held on 11th inst. at Chenies-street-chambers, Bloomsbury. This company has been formed to meet the great demand for better accommodation in the way of chambers or flats, at moderate rents, for educated women of limited means residing in London and earning their own livelihood. The scheme also includes the supply of meals to the tenants at moderate prices. There is a general dining room for the use of the tenants, as well as a smaller room where private luncheons or dinners can be served. The demand for rooms is such that the directors have decided to build another block and are now in treaty for a site. For this purpose they are anxious to receive further applications for shares.

FELLOWSHIPS AT JESUS, CAMBRIDGE.

Jesus College, being in want of a classical lecturer, have elected Mr. Edwin Abbott, B.A., scholar of Gonville and Caius College, to one of their vacancies. Mr. Abbott, the son of Dr. Abbott, late head-master of the City of London, was a first class classic in 1889, but has not yet taken Part II. of his tripos. He has obtained several university scholarships, and was Chancellor medallist last year, as his father was in 1861. The other vacancy has been filled by the election of Mr. George Townsend Warner, B.A., scholar of Jesus College. Mr. Townsend-Warner was senior in the history tripos of 1887, and has obtained university scholarships in history and international law. He is assistant lecturer in history at his college, where he has also given a course of lectures on political economy.

LORD HARTINGTON'S TRIP UP THE NILE.

Lord Hartington left Cairo on March 1 for the ascent of the Nile with the Earl and Countess of Gosforth and Viscount Clifden. Sir Evelyn and Lady Baring accompanied them for a portion of the voyage, which was intended to occupy about three weeks. Messrs. Gaze arranged for the exclusive use of the steamship *Khedivie* for the party.

MR HARRY FURNISS'S GIFT.

Animated by the generosity of Mr. Henry Tate and other benefactors of the National Gallery, Mr. Harry Furniss has offered to the trustees his collection of illustrations of the work of modern artists recently on view in Bond-street. The only stipulation made is that the sketches shall have a room assigned to their exhibition. Mr. Furniss has received a communication to the effect that his offer is under consideration.

The favourite "buttonhole" for young men just now is the Nepcutner or Russian vioLA

A MIDNIGHT STEEPLECHASE.

RIDERS IN NIGHT SHIRTS AND TOP HATS.

A midnight steeplechase took place near Melton Mowbray on Monday, which caused intense excitement in the town. It is said (the *Sportsman* states) that the idea originated from the fertile brain of Lady Augusta Fane, who is at present located at the Old Club, and the arrangements were carried out under the direction of Mr. Baldock, Mr. Brocklehurst, and Major Crabbe. Although the utmost secrecy was observed, the news of such an unusual event of course soon spread, and before the night arrived the whole town was in a state of excitement, while at eleven o'clock carriages and all kinds of vehicles rolled into the town from every quarter. The ladies and gentlemen of the hunt turned out almost *en masse*, and there was also an immense gathering of foot-people. A capital course had been laid out from Brocklehurst's residence—nearly a triangle in length—and was marked out with lamps. The competitors were Count Zbrowski, Mr. George Paget, Mr. Sydney Paget, Mr. Otto Paget, Mr. W. Chaplin, Mr. A. Burnaby, Mr. G. Wilson, Captain Rawlinson, Mr. E. Heneage, Captain Warner, and Mr. M'Neil. One of the riders wore a dress suit, with top boots and spurs, and top hat, but threw off his coat before starting. The whole of the other competitors rode in starched white night-shirts and top hats. It was intended to run the race by moonlight, but clouds obscured the sky, and the night was very dark. The start was delayed for some time, with the hope that the clouds might break, but as the light did not improve it was decided to bring off the contest in the dark. After one breakaway all the horses went off at a good pace, Count Zbrowski being the first to take the fence. He was immediately followed by Mr. M'Neil, Mr. Burnaby, and Mr. Heneage. Three of the horses refused to jump, and three other riders were brought to the ground. Mr. M'Neil quickly assumed the lead, and went right away, but getting out of the course he lost a lot of ground, and the first place was then taken by Count Zbrowski. The latter, however, mistook a light held by a boy for one of the lamps on the last fence, and having to abruptly turn, he just managed to lose his position, Mr. A. Burnaby taking the winning fence a neck in front. Count Zbrowski came a cropper over the finishing "bullfinch," and would undoubtedly have been seriously hurt had not some one promptly seized his horse's bridle. Mr. M'Neil came in a good third, notwithstanding that he had gone so far out of his correct course. Only five finished, and three horses were running about with empty seats. The prize was a silver cup, value £50, and was competed for by some of the very best horses in the crack shires. Though there were so many falls, no one was hurt with the exception of Mr. Wilson, whose face was badly cut with a horse's hoof.

SALVATION FOR JOHANNESBURG.

PRESIDENT KRUGER GIVES IN.

Said a Reuter's telegram from Cape Town yesterday:—"President Kruger has publicly announced that he is in favour of the immediate construction of the Cape Railway from Bloemfontein to Johannesburg."

This is a very important piece of news. In the present depression many people have thought that the one hope of salvation for Johannesburg was the concession now announced. It is certain that without it there might have come a crash which would have grievously retarded the development of the South African goldfields. It will be remembered that the grievance on this head was the cause of the riot at Johannesburg the other day. Hitherto President Kruger has remained firm in his veto on the admission of any railway prior to the Delagoa Bay line. Now that this veto is removed, it will probably not be long before a railway, with all its facilities of transit, connects Cape Town and Johannesburg.

THE CRISIS IN THE COAL TRADE.

MEETINGS OF LANCASHIRE COALOWNERS.

A meeting of the West Lancashire Coalowners' Association, one of the largest ever held, took place yesterday at Manchester, when a letter from Mr. B. Pickard M.P., president of the Miners' Federation, was read in reference to the offer to submit the question of a further advance in wages to arbitration. After some discussion the meeting passed the following resolution:—"That the colliery owners pledge themselves to resist the advances demanded by the colliers' representatives even in case the colliers strike."

A meeting of the coalowners of the Oldham, Ashton, and District Colliery Owners' Association was also held in Manchester yesterday, when a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that the demand of the men for a 10 per cent. advance should be resisted, and declaring that the members of the association would be bound by the decision of the meeting of the Employers' Federation in London.

The leading colliery firms in the Manchester district have decided to follow the action taken by the West Lancashire owners, and to resist the advance.

The miners at Bestwood, Hucknall, Linley, Newstean, and Annesley collieries are bringing their tools to the pit bank this morning, their notices having expired.

THE PRINCE AT THE DUKE OF FIFE'S.

The Duke of Fife had a small dinner party on Sunday at his new house to meet the Prince of Wales. Among the guests were Lord Londonderry, Lord Dunraven, Lord R. Churchill, Sir Henry Thompson, Sir Edmund Currie, Mr. Irving, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Burnand, and Mr. George Augustus Sala.

PARTICULARS OF LAST NIGHT'S DIVISION.

The division last night on the rider to Mr. Smith's motion on the Special Commission, moved by Mr. Caine, was mainly on party lines, but there were several marked abstentions on each side. The minority of 261, including tellers, which supported Mr. Caine's rider was composed of 181 Gladstonian Liberals, 76 Irish Nationalists, 2 Liberal Unionists, Mr. Courtney and Mr. Caine, and 2 Conservatives, Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Staveley Hill. There were nineteen Gladstonian Liberals absent paired, and the following five unpaired:—Sir John Swinburne (who paired for the previous division on Mr. Gladstone's amendment), Mr. W. Crawfard, Mr. A. McArthur, Mr. Pickard, and Mr. Pugh, the latter of whom was also absent unpaired from the previous division. There were also absent unpaired the Nationalists, including Mr. Parnell and the O'Gorman Mahon, both of whom voted in the minority in the previous division. The Opposition were further weakened by the vacancies at Ayr Burghs, Stoke, and West Cavan. The majority against the rider was composed of 272 Conservatives and 51 Liberal-Unionists. There were 19 Conservatives absent paired, and 15 unpaired.

A WORKMEN'S CONFERENCE ON LAND NATIONALIZATION.

Last night, the first of a series of conferences, promoted by the South London Radical Federation, was held at the West Southwark Club, Blackfriars-road, to hear Mr. Patrick Hennessy on land nationalization, and in order to define the subject from a workman's point of view, it being felt that the time had come when the persons most vitally affected by the land question should take counsel as to what it means to them. Delegates attended from the principal Radical clubs, and the Land Nationalization Society was strongly represented by Miss Helen Taylor, Messrs. Hennessy, Ogilvy, Jameson, Hyde (the secretary), and others. Both Miss Taylor and Mr. Hennessy expounded their doctrines. They advocated as a remedy not State control in place of private enterprise, but the freeing of private enterprise, by forcing open the locked-up resources of the country. As a first step it was proposed that local bodies should be established throughout the country to take land from time to time on behalf of the State for small holdings, and "fair compensation" was advocated for the outgoing landlords. While agreeing with the end desired, a section of Henry George's Land Restoration League, headed by the secretary, Mr. Verinder, strongly opposed the compensation clause, and the Socialists present joined in denouncing the "buying out" system. The "compensationists" retorted that in declaring for possession of the land they recognized the justice of equitable and constitutional methods. This point proved the crux of th ediscussion, which was vigorously maintained. Ultimately, after a long debate, the conference was adjourned for a week.

EXECUTION THIS MORNING.

Row, a shoemaker, belonging to Manchester, was executed this morning in the Newcastle Gaol for the murder of his paramour at the beginning of the year by cutting her throat. Berry was the executioner. Reporters were excluded from the execution, which took place at the corner of the goal-yard, where a permanent scaffold exists, enclosed in a shed within a few yards of the condemned cell. The condemned man had shown great fortitude throughout, and maintained that demeanour to the end, betraying little concern for his fate, saying he had a presentiment that he would one day be hanged. Row walked to the scaffold at a sign from the Under Sheriff, and Berry having pulled the lever the culprit died instantaneously.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

In splendid weather Oxford rowed a course on the ebb this morning; the water was perfectly smooth, a light south-west wind being behind them. They commenced at 36, gradually dropping to 32, and averaging to 33·6 for the finish. The times were:—Barnes Bridge 2.46, Chiswick Church 7.12, Hammersmith Bridge 11.30, Putney 19.47.

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS FIRM.—FOREIGN STOCKS STEADY. AMERICANS DISTINCTLY HARDER.—QUIET BUSINESS.

In the open market there is a small demand for money, and advances can readily be obtained at 3 to 3½ per cent. The number of bills offering in the discount market is small, but the quotation for three months' bank paper is somewhat steadier, at 2⅞ to 3 per cent., while the rate for short bills is 3 to 3⅛ per cent. There are still rumours of large withdrawals of gold for Buenos Ayres and to these may be attributed the rather firmer tendency in the discount market. No one would be surprised at a reduction in the Bank rate to-morrow, but no very decided opinions are expressed either for or against such a movement.

The tendency of prices in most departments of the Stock Exchange is rather more favourable, and in many cases a distinct improvement has taken place. Consols and other Home Government Funds are steady without material alteration, but in the English railway market there is a general advance, except in the case of Caledonian. Great Eastern stock, principally owing to the state of the account, shows a further upward movement. The stocks of the heavy lines, too, are a trifle higher. European descriptions in the Foreign department incline to firmness, but Argentine and Buenos Ayres commence issues are heavy on a further rise in the gold premium. Rumours were current yesterday of an advance to 165 per cent., and this is now officially confirmed. American Railroads are substantially higher with a special advance in the Vanderbilt stocks, and Milwaukee shares. According to advices from the other side, the railroad news from the North-West is of a more favourable character. The Pennsylvania stockholders have authorized the issue of 20,000,000 dols. new stock for the proposed consolidation of the Chicago, St. Louis, and Pittsburg with the Panhandle system. The stock will be allotted in May. Trunks and Mexican Railway issues are quiet.

The Home and Colonial Assets and Debenture Corporation, as trustees, have addressed a circular to the debenture-holders of the Australian Property and Investment Company, announcing that proposals are on foot to amalgamate that company with the Real Estate Mortgage and Deposit Bank, a Melbourne institution formed with cognate objects to those of the Australian Property and Investment Company. Two shares in the Real Estate Mortgage and Deposit Bank, with £2 10s. per share paid up, are to be given for each share of the Australian Property and Investment Company paid up to £5.

The Pennsylvania Railroad shareholders have held a meeting and passed a resolution authorizing the directors from time to time to issue 400,000 new shares. The present capital is 113,488,600 dols. This step increases it by 20 millions. The charter limit is 150 millions. Pennsylvania Railroad shares, on the announcement of the proposed increase of capital, declined ⅛ to 54¾.

RAILWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases:* North Eastern, £8,244; Midland, £10,817; Great Eastern, £3,446; North Staffords, £662; Metropolitan District, £116; Metropolitan, £56; Eastern and Midland, £31; Mexican Central, 18,148 dols. *Decrease:* Lancashire and Yorkshire, £825.

TRAMWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases:* London Street, £163; London, £118; Belfast, £234; Sheffield, £281; Bristol, £61; Gothenburg, £31; Imperial, £4; Sunderland, £67; Swansea, £65; Glasgow, £134; Edinburgh, £203. *Decreases:* North Metropolitan, £46; London Southern, £7; Southampton, £8; Calcutta, £57; Continental Metropolitan, £257; Bordeaux, £788; and Calais, £49.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET opened quiet with a moderate demand Sales, probably 8,000 bales. Futures are half to one point lower.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved:* South Western ½, Great Eastern ¾, Great Western, North Western, and Midland ⅛, Brighton Deferred, North Eastern, and South Eastern Deferred ⅛ each. *Receded:* Chatham Preference ¼, and Caledonian ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced:* Turkish 1871, Uruguay Five and Six per Cents. ¼ each, Egyptian Daira ⅛, and the Unified 1-16. *Declined:* Buenos Ayres of 1883 ⅛, Argentine Cedulas A ⅛, Italian ⅛, and Spanish 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Risen:* Lake Shore 1¼, Illinois Central ¾, Milwaukee shares ⅝, New York Central 1, Union Pacific shares ½, Denver Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, Louisville and Nashville shares ⅝, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, Norfolk and Western Preference, Northern Pacific Preference, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary, and Reading shares ¾, and Atlantic Firsts ⅛. *Fallen:* Erie Second Mortgage and Pennsylvania shares ¼.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher:* Mexican Central ¼, Grand Trunk Second Preference ⅜, Mexican Ordinary ⅛, and Lombardo-Venetian 1-16. *Lower:* Taltal ¾, and Nitrate shares ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved:* Exploring Co. ½, Bell's Asbestos, and Primitiva Nitrate ¼. *Receded:* Eastman's ½, Tharsis 1-16, and De Beers 1-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			Great Western	162¾	⅝
Consols (2½) Money	97 1/16	3/16	Hull and Barnsley.	37⅛	¾
Do. Account	97 5/16	7/16	Lond. and York ..	121	2
Do. 1905	99	⅛	North Western	179¾	⅝
New 2½ per Cents.	94½	⅜	South Western	134½	5/8
Local Loans Stock	102⅝	⅜	Manch. and Sheff..	88	8
India 3½ per Cents.	107½	8	Do. A	49½	⅜
Do. 4½ Rs.	82	1½d	Metro-Consolidated	139½	⅝
Egyptian Guar.	101	⅛	Do. District ..	29¾	30⅝
Bk. of England St.	354	7	Midland	142¾	⅝
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½ p.c.	111¾	12	North Brit. Pref. ..	78	½
Do. 3 p. ct. Scrip	110	11	Do. Def.	61¼	⅜
Brighton 3½ p. c.	110	11	North Eastern	164½	5⅛
Leeds 4 per cent. ..	115	17	North Stafford	111	15
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	112	⅜	South Eastern	129	31
Manchester 4 p. c.	128	30	Do. Deferred	103½	4
			Taff Vale	70	9
COLONIAL SECURITIES.					
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	⅜	**FOREIGN RAILWAYS.**		
Canada 5 p. c. Stock	103½	6⅛	Canada Pacific....	75¾	⅜
Cape 4 p. c Cons Ins	110⅜	11⅛	Cen. Pacific Shares	33	⅛
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins.	110⅛	11⅜	Chic. Mil. and St. Pl	70½	⅜
Mauritius 4 per Ins.	99	⅜	Denver & R. Grande	15½	15
Natal 4 p. c. C1897	109	10	Do. Preference ..	47¾	8¼
N.S. Wales Ins 1955	113	10	Illinois Shares	117½	18⅝
,, 3½ 1924	102½	3½	Lake Shore	109	⅜
New Zealand Cons.	104½	6⅛	Louis & Nash.	87¼	⅜
Queensland 4 p.c. Ins.	110	11	Miss. Kan. & Texas	10¾	11⅜
S. Austn. 4 p.c. Reg.	102½	10½	N.Y. Central Shares	110	⅝
Victoria 4 p.c. of 1885	111½	12½	New York Ontario	17½	13⅝
W. Australia 4 p.c. ..	101	11	N. Y. Erie Shares ..	25½	⅞
			Do. Second Mort.	105¼	4¾
FOREIGN STOCKS.			Norfolk & W. Pref.	62⅞	⅜
Argentn 4½ p.c. 1892	75½	7	N. Y., P. & O. Int. M	35¼	4¼
Do. 3½ p.c. Extnl.	59½	60½	North Pacific Pref.	73	⅛
Do. Cedulas A	42	3	Ohio & Mississippi	20¾	1⅜
Do. B	8	7	Pennsylvania Sh...	55½	⅝
Austrian Gold	95	5	Phil & Read Sh...	13½	⅞
,, Silver..	74	6	Union Pacific Sh. ..	49¾	⅛
Brazilian 4½ 1889..	89	7	Wabash Preferred..	30⅛	1
Do. 1883 (Fr'm) Rs.	76¾	¾	Do. Gen. Mort.	48½	9½
Do. ,, (partly pd)	12	11 d/s	Grand Trunk Sh...	13	13/16
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1888	93½	100½	Do. First Pref..	72¾	3
,, Cedulas "I"	5	3	Do. Second Pref.	40¼	⅜
,, ,, "J"	33	1	Do. Third Pref.	27⅜	⅜
Bulgarian	89	90	Do. Guaranteed..	78¾	⅜
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1892	102	4	Mexican Ordinary	36⅞	⅜
Costa Rica A.....	87	9	Do. First Pref....	117¾	⅜
,, ,, B.....	87	9	Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	72¾	⅜
Ecuador, New	23¾	4½	Mexican Central ..	17¼	2⅜
Egypt. State Dom.	103¼	4¼	Mexican National	56	7
Do. Unified	98¼	⅛	Lombardo-Venetian	11⅝	⅜
Egypt. Preference.	104⅜	⅜	Nitrate Railway ..	16½	⅜
Do. Daira Sanieh	84⅛	⅜	Taltal	8½	⅜
French 3 p.c. Rentes	87¾	⅜	B. Ayres & Rosario	165	7
Do. 4½ p.c. Rentes	104	⅜	Do. Great Southern	134	9
Greek 5 p. c. 1881-4.	90¾	⅜	Central Argentine..	165	7
Do. 4 p. c. Mon.	75	⅜	S. Paulo (Limited)	44	6
Hung. Gold Rentes	89½	⅜			
Italian	91¾	⅜	**BANKS.**		
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888.	96¾	⅜	Alliance Bank	144½	15½
Peruvian 5 p. c. 1872	16½	17	City Bank	221½	3½
Do. 6 p. c.	31	½	Colonial	50	2
Portuguese	65¾	⅜	Commercial	87½	⅜
Russian 4 p. c. 1889	94¾	⅜	Imperial	194½	20½
Spanish 4 p. c.	73¾	⅜	Imperial Ottoman..	11 5/16	7/16
Turkish, 1854	14½	4	London and County	68	90
Conv. A	39½	40¼	Lloyds	39½	40
Do. B	21½	5	Lon. and Westmr.	69	71
Do. D	13	⅛	London Joint Stock	40	1
4½ p. c. 1873	97¼	8¼	Nat. Prov. of Eng.	16½	7½
5 p. c. Defence ..	102½	3	Provincial of Ireland	21	2
5 p. c. Priority ..	97	9	Stand. Bk. of S. A.	65½	6½
Uruguay Unified	73	3¼	Union of London ..	41	2
Do. 6 p. c. 1888 ..	85¾	6¾	National Discount	113½	12
Virginia Funded	45¾	6⅛			
U.S. 4½ p. c.	105	6	**TRUSTS.**		
			Fn. & Cl. Gen. Tst.	135	8
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			Gov. Stk. Invst. Df.	110	14
Brighton Ordinary	154	6	Lon. and N. Y. Inv.	6¾	7¼
Do. A	150½	¾	Stock Conversion ..	1¾	¾
Chatham Ordinary	23½	¾	South African Trst.	2¼	¾
Do. Preference	109¼	¾	Trus., Ex., & Sec.	5¾	⅞
Caledonian	123½	4			
Great Eastern	80¾	⅜	**MINING & LAND.**		
Great Northern	120	2	Indian Con. Gold	2⅜	2½
Do. A	102½	3½	Mysore Gold	6¾	⅝

Oregum Gold	2¼	⅜	
Cape Copper	3 7/16	9/16	
Namaqua	1¾	2½	
Mason & Barry....	6 3/16	5/16	
Rio Tinto	16½	⅜	
Tharsis	2¾	⅛	
Montana	1¾	⅜	
De Beers	16⅝	¾	
Griqualand West ..	5¾	6	
New Jagersfontein.	12¾	⅜	
City and Suburban.	7⅛	⅜	
Jumper's Gold	7⅝	⅛	
Ashiee	3⅝	⅜	
Robinson	3½	⅜	
Salisbury.....	7	⅛	
Sutherland	4	⅜	
S. Afcn. Exploratn.	19	⅛	
Da. New.....	2	¼pm	
G. F. of Sth. Africa	4½	⅛	
Exploring Co.	15	18	
Oceana Land.....	1	⅛	
Southern Land.....	par	¼pm	
Transvaal Land	½	¾pm	
TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE			
Anglo-American ..	49	50	
Do. Preferred ..	82½	3½	
Brazilian 4½	12½	⅜	
Direct United States	7	⅛	
Eastern	13⅝	14¼	
Do. Extension ..	13¾	14	
Globe Telegraph ..	5¼	⅜	
National Telephone	5¾	⅜	
OMNIBUS AND TRAM			
Lon. Gen. Om.	130	90	
London Road Car	5¾	⅜	
London Street	11½	12¾	
London Tramways..	14½	15⅜	
North Metropolitan	13¾	⅜	
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Chelsea Waterwks.	290	5	
East London	211	15	
Grand Junction....	122	7	
Kensington	271	6	
Lambeth	274	6	
New River, New ..	160	5	
Schwk & Whalli..	154	9	
Hampton	9¾	10¼	
West Middlesex ..	230	5	
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGH			
Gaslight & Coke A	240	52	
Imp. Continental..	217	17	
South Metropolitan	273	85	
Da. B	221	7	
Da. C	232	60	
London Electric ..	23¾	5	
Metrplitan Electric	5¾	6	
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Allsopp's.....	7	⅜	
Bell's Asbestos	12¾	⅜	
Bottomes and Co....	34½	5	
Brinkibia	4	⅝	
Maxim-Nordenfelt.	2¾	⅝	
Bryant and May ..	13¾	⅜	
Eastman's Ord	16¾	⅜	
Eastman's Cape....	6½	⅜	
Spratt's Patent	7¾	¼	
Liverpool Nitrate..	11	13	
Colorado Nitrate ..	3½	4	
Primitiva Nitrate ..	1¾	¾	
Rosario	3	4	
San Pablo	3½	4	
San Jorge	5¾	6¼	
San Donato	2½	3	
Tamarugal.....	2	⅜	
Salt Union Shares	11¾	13	
Rand Con. Stan. Del.	193	8	
Royal Mail Steam ..	71	4	
Hudson's Bay	20	⅝	
Suez Canal.....	90¾	1¾	
Lon. & Indiarubber	14	⅜	
Lon. & St. K. Dock	38	4	

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Mr. Fowler's speech to the Eighty Club last night gave great satisfaction to the Radicals. The prominence he accorded to social problems, and the hearty sympathy he expressed with "the New Radicalism," were much commented on; and London candidates in particular were jubilant over the fact that at least one Front Bench Liberal is in touch with them.

⁂

Are the Tories really worse listeners than the Liberals? Mr. Fowler complained last night that

> A distinguished member of the Ministry would get up and make an eloquent speech, which was much applauded by his supporters. The moment he sat down the men who had just been cheering would systematically rise from their seats in scores—he might almost say in hundreds—and leave the House.

But does not our side do very much the same thing?

⁂

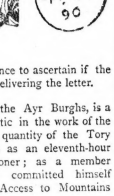
Here is one little piece of electoral arithmetic—simple enough, let us hope, even for Mr. Birrell, who professed himself too light-headed to be able to follow the science of by-elections—which Mr. Fowler gave to the Eighty Club:—

> That 83 constituencies—one-eighth of the House of Commons—had had an opportunity of saying whether they were in the same mind as in 1886. In that year those 83 constituencies returned a Tory majority of 18. To-day they returned a Liberal majority of 6.

But Mr. Fowler, out of deference to Mr. Birrell, did not finish his sum. If the whole House were to be renewed at the same rate, there would be a Liberal majority of 48.

⁂

Mr. Henniker Heaton will ask the Postmaster-General to-day whether he is aware that in the United States and Australia the hour of posting, or collection, as well as the date, are legibly stamped upon every envelope by the postal officials; and whether he sees any objection to the introduction of this system in the post offices of the United Kingdom." The introduction of the Australian and American system will prove a great protection to the public, as witness the difference of stamp on a London and Sydney letter. The public would thus be able at once to ascertain if the postman had cleared the pillar-box too late or delayed delivering the letter.



⁂

Mr. James Somervell, the Unionist candidate for the Ayr Burghs, is a local landlord. He is a resident proprietor, and energetic in the work of the county; a fluent speaker, and has just a sufficient quantity of the Tory Democrat in him to have made him a trifle dangerous as an eleventh-hour candidate. Mr. Somervell is a County Commissioner; as a member of the Bills Committee of the shire he has committed himself against such measures as the Crofters Acts, the Access to Mountains Bill, the Hares and Rabbits Act, &c.

⁂

Can any valid cause be shown against the abolition of "assumed names" which Lord Durham puts in the forefront of his Turf Reform Bill in this month's *New Review*? A good deal of criticism has already been directed against his proposal; but it all amounts to no more than this: that many men may have more or less disreputable reasons for assuming false names when they go on the turf. This one can well believe; but what Lord Durham's critics fail to point out is how such subterfuges benefit the turf, or rather—for this is what the argument requires to be shown—how they confer such overwhelming benefits as to outweigh the obvious evils involved.

⁂

Lord Durham might, by the way, have strengthened his defence of the turf as a democratic institution by an appeal to the colonies. The Australians are as democratic as any people on the face of the earth, and horse-racing is if possible even more popular among them than football. This is especially the case in Victoria, and Sir Charles Dilke mentions as a significant fact that the racing club of Melbourne was founded before the town itself:—

> When not an acre of land had yet been sold, and while the settlers were inhabiting sod-huts and waiting for the arrival of the officer who was to survey the site of the proposed township, a race club was formed, five prizes were subscribed, and a racecourse was chosen.

From that day to this the Victorian racing calendar has been unbroken; and "Cup Day" is as much a popular festival in Victoria as is the Derby Day at home.

⁂

Now that the reciter is becoming a prime favourite in our leading music-halls, it may interest the fraternity to know that there is a capital piece for recitation in the poems of Adam Lindsay Gordon, an English edition of which has lately been published. It is entitled "How we Beat the Favourite," and is undoubtedly the most stirring and dramatic poetical description of a closely-contested horse-race ever penned. It was written in Australia, where Gordon was by turns a mounted trooper, a member of Parliament, a publican, a jockey, and a journalist, and always awakens enthusiasm among colonial audiences.

⁂

"Being in High Wycombe the other day I saw" (writes a correspondent) "an interesting souvenir of the election of 1832, when Mr. Disraeli was defeated for the Buckinghamshire borough—namely, a small ivory pincushion covered with red plush velvet, given by Mr. Disraeli to Mrs. Fontana, a daughter of his supporter, Mr. Abraham Wootton, and by her bequeathed to her nephew, Mr. R. T. Wootton. One of the present members for Kent offered twenty guineas for it the other day, but the family will not part with it for any sum."

⁂

A friend of Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson has just received word from him describing his voyage from the Gilbert Islands to Samoa in the schooner *Equator*. Mr. Stevenson's party consists of himself, his wife, and his stepson, Mr. Lloyd Osbourne, and Mr. Strong, an artist. They had a very disagreeable voyage. At one time the boats were cleared and supplied with provisions, ready to be launched. They, however, reached Samoa in safety, although in a thoroughly used-up condition. Mr. Strong was so ill that he was sent on to Sydney by the first steamer. Mr. Stevenson himself seems to be the strongest member of the party; he walks several miles every day, takes long horseback rides, interviews no end of people about Samoa, takes notes, and is altogether in unusual health and strength. When will his South Sea letters begin?

⁂

South Africa (a well-meaning little weekly consisting of articles on gold companies and clippings about things South African) has been reprinting *in extenso* the articles of the Special Correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*—as it is quite welcome to do—accompanying them each week with superior little shakings of the head. Who writes of South Africa must not forget that he poaches on *South Africa*'s preserves. The other day it was very scornful of "the pains which the correspondent takes to explain that he did not find any signs of war between the Transvaal and England" (a question, by the way, which he never so much as suggested), "or even any signs of revolution. . . . Whoever said there would be?" asks *South Africa*, with much more in the *quis oppugnavit* strain.

⁂

Then came the news of the riot at Johannesburg, in which tumultuous crowds tore the Transvaal flag in pieces, surrounded and shouted down the President, and brought upon the scene the armed police. It will be admitted that for such violence to pass off without bloodshed was, to say the least of it, rather lucky; and it is not surprising to find that *South Africa* makes a wry face in swallowing the pill. The news "must be accepted with much caution;" "it would be going too far in the direction of scepticism to decline to believe that something or other of the kind indicated has taken place," but "it may be taken as certain that what has occurred will be found to be something very different from what at the first blush has been made to appear." That, indeed, is to be hoped—both for the sake of South Africa and of *South Africa*.

☞ FOR THE PEOPLE
HUDSON'S SOAP.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month), on the three years' system. Illustrated List free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 63, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AT WORK.

THE LAW AND THE LADIES.

The question of the status of ladymembers of the Council was raised at the meeting yesterday. It came forward on this wise. The report of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee opened with a recommendation that Miss Cobden should be elected a member of that body in place of Mr. Davies, resigned. Mr. Boulnois moved that the Council disagree with the recommendation. He contended that a judicial decision had been given against the right of women to be elected as members of the Council. Miss Cobden and Miss Cons had upon their own responsibility taken their seats; but he understood that legal proceedings were to be taken against them. This difference evoked loud cries of "Shame!" but Mr. Boulnois, in the approved parliamentary manner, retorted that he saw no shame at all in "vindicating the majesty of the law." Colonel Rotton seconded the amendment, gallantly protesting that no one would more cordially welcome the ladies as colleagues, if the law so ordained, than himself; but, in view of the legal decision already given, the Council should not fly in the face of the judges by deliberately countenancing the presence of the ladies. Mr. Phillips (chairman of the Committee concerned) said it would be time to obey the law when they knew what it was. The Committee were of opinion that Miss Cobden would be a most valuable accession to that body. The amendment was lost on a show of hands, and on a division being demanded the recommendation to elect Miss Cobden was adopted by a large majority (64 to 23).

A BATTLE OF THE SPECIALISTS.

The doctors differed utterly upon a proposal, emanating from a special committee of which Mr. R. Brudenell Carter is chairman, to establish in London "an adequately-equipped hospital, containing one hundred beds, for the study and curative treatment of insanity in pauper lunatics of both sexes," under the direction and control of the Council. Dr. Cooper moved an amendment deferring for six months the consideration of the report. He objected to the expenditure of £5,000 or £10,000 per annum upon an experiment. There were already ample opportunities for the study of brain diseases, and, in his opinion, hospitals had been of little or no use in extending knowledge as to the best method of treating insanity. Mr. Austin supported the proposal of the committee on the ground that the present system afforded no means of studying insanity from the curative point of view. Sir George Harris opposed, pointing out that encouraging progress had already been made in curing the insane, quoting statistics in proof of his statement. Mr. Brudenell Carter, in replying, implored the Council to take pity on the poor unfortunate lunatics committed to their charge, and read extracts from a letter by Mr. Gilbert Scott, against the proposal, which, he said, "of course all the lunacy men will denounce." Mr. Carter, however, failed to carry the Council with him, and the amendment was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

A REJECTED IMPROVEMENT.

The Improvements Committee recommended that £1,000 should be contributed towards the cost of widening Kensington-road. Colonel Hughes moved that the report should be referred back, and this was supported by Mr. Benn, who pointed out that the only improvements hitherto suggested by that committee were in the interest of parishes where the rates were lower than in any other part of the metropolis. After some debate the amendment was carried.

THE CENTRAL LONDON RAILWAY BILL.

The Parliamentary Committee recommended that opposition should be continued to the scheme for the construction of four and a half miles of subterranean electric railway from Bayswater to the City. The petition of the Council, sealed on February 18, denied the existence of adequate public necessity for such a railway, and urged various objections to the proposal. Mr. Beachcroft moved an amendment to the effect that opposition to the bill should be confined to the due protection of the Council's interests in connection with sewers, &c. He contended that there was urgent necessity for additional means of communication. Mr. Fardell stated that the inhabitants of Bayswater were opposed to the proposed railway, which was eminently one of a speculative character. Mr. Debenham, in supporting the amendment, said that he had ascertained by experiments that the journey by road from the Marble Arch to the Bank occupied from seven to twelve minutes per mile, according to the class of vehicle employed. By the proposed railway it would be possible to travel a mile in three minutes, and this saving of time would be a great boon to the public. After further discussion the amendment of Mr. Beachcroft was carried, and the effect of this decision will be that the bill will not be opposed in Parliament by the Council on its merits, but only in the extent of the powers which it seeks to obtain being detrimental to the Council's interests.

THE ARABELLA GODDARD CONCERT.

A pathetic occasion! How often in St. James's Hall has Arabella Goddard in days gone by been the charming centre of attraction. We can remember her well sailing on to the platform somewhere about the sixties in one of those huge crinolines—which the fathers of the present generation thought so becoming—with her hair a little more fluffed out than was then the fashion, and looking altogether, with her fine complexion, bright eyes, and queenly figure, as handsome as a rose in June. Alas! that such roses should fade! Whilst Janotha was playing Mendelssohn's G Minor Concerto which Mdme. Goddard had so often played in the lifetime of the immortal composer, and in the presence of old Mrs. Anderson (the Queen's pianiste), for whom Mendelssohn wrote it, poor Mdme. Goddard was lying on a bed of sickness, only able to dictate a letter of thanks to the graceful and warm-hearted fellow-pianiste who had undertaken to play on her behalf. "The doctor absolutely forbids me putting pen to paper. I only pray that if my life is spared I may meet you to tell you *vivâ voce* all I cannot write, and give you a sister-artist's embrace"—a wish which every one from Janotha downwards cordially echoed last night. When we say that Joachim, Piatti, Lisa Lehmann, and Ambrose Standing were among the performers, we need not add that the term "splendid" applied by Mdme. Goddard to the programme was not too strong—still we regretted the unexplained absence of Mdme. Semon, and the complete disarrangement of the programme throughout was surely unnecessary. We may remark that Mdlle. Janotha's playing of Mendelssohn's G Minor Concerto, although technically perfect, quite lacked the absorption and earnestness of the great Mendelssohnian tradition so rapidly fading out. With Mdme. Schumann the last of it will be gone. Mendelssohn was generally thought to play his own compositions too fast—but Mdlle. Janotha plays them so fast that last night at least half was inaudible, and the other half would have been unintelligible had not every note been familiar to the audience. The first and last movements were simply rushed through like pianoforte exercises, but that is not the way to play Mendelssohn. Lisa Lehmann's charming songs were marred by the closing verse of her little French song over again—with less effect, of course. Mdme. Antoinette Sterling more wisely declined. Among the audience were the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Fife, and the Duchess of Teck. The room was not crowded, but, with the high prices, we believe a liberal sum will be handed to the distinguished lady whose playing is now but a pleasant memory.

A BILL FOR THE BARMAIDS.

The long hours, little pay, and insanitary sleeping accommodation of the barmaids formed the subject of comment in the *Pall Mall Gazette* a few months ago, and that account of their condition has been the means of drawing public attention to a great grievance. Yesterday, at Miss Morley's residence, in Grosvenor-street, a small but influential company of ladies gathered to discuss the remedies; so that England need no longer rest under the imputation that she encourages what one of the speakers has often called the "system of white slavery." Mrs. Carus Wilson, Mrs. Ashton, Lady Clark, and the Hon. Gertrude Kinnaird; while all around the room, eagerly taking notes that they might report to their respective societies, sat representatives of the Girls' Friendly Society, National Vigilance Association, Women's Union, Church of England Temperance Society, and the British Women's Temperance Association. All were agreed that the employment of girls at the bar of public-houses and taverns was radically wrong, but the ladies were rather timid over a resolution, which was passed, stating that in the opinion of the meeting, men, and not women, should serve drink. Mrs. Carus Wilson repeated the testimony of an American visitor to these shores, who had been terribly shocked by the presence of girls behind the bar. In his country they were never seen in such a place. Miss Gough's description of restaurants and public-houses which came afterwards sufficiently showed that in the majority of cases the banishment of the barmaid from the bar would be a blessing. That, however, is a reform for the far future, and meanwhile the workers had to be content with a bill limiting the hours of labour and enforcing strict sanitary rules. It was at first intended to add an amendment to the Factory Act, bringing these girls under its provisions, but this was found impracticable, and a separate measure is to be introduced into Parliament by Mr. Caine. The rough draft was read yesterday, and as it at present stands it contains clauses providing for the appointment of a sanitary inspector, and for the limitation of the working hours of a barmaid to seventy-two a week. They are not to be allowed to work for more than five hours continuously, and in many matters they are to possess the privileges previously conferred upon factory workers. After much discussion, the ladies determined to think about the bill and discuss it with their friends at home. Accordingly they departed, to meet again in a month's time for further conference.

☞ FOR THE PEOPLE
HUDSON'S SOAP.

HATCHARDS, BOOKSELLERS, 187, PICCADILLY, W.—All the New and Standard Books; discount, 3d. in the shilling. Post orders promptly executed.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF PAINTING.

LECTURE BY MR. JAMES ORROCK, R.I.

Mr. James Orrock, R.I., had a large and attentive audience last night at the rooms of the Society of Arts for his lecture on "The Claims of the British School of Painting to a more thorough representation in the National Gallery." The walls of the lecture room on this occasion were "a thing of beauty," for round them were hung examples of works by G. Barret, David Cox, Copley Fielding, W. Muller, W. Hunt, De Wint, Chambers, Vincent, Morland, and other masters of the English School not adequately represented in the National Gallery. These beautiful pictures belong, Sir James Linton, P.R.I. (who was in the chair) stated, nearly all of them, to Mr. Orrock's private collection. (The collection, we may state incidentally, will be on view until the end of the week to visitors on presentation of their card.) Sir James Linton introduced the lecturer as not only an artist of great ability, and an expert of exceptional merit, but a connoisseur, a lover of all that is fine in art. Mr. Orrock had in his possession and lived amongst the greatest masters of our school. He was the first to place the matters of his paper in a practicable form.

The representation of the English school of painting in the National Gallery, the lecturer said, was a matter of great public importance. It would be very easy to prove that it was contrary to the fact to twit us with having "no school of painting," and that we had produced a great school of painting. Our national art reached as far back as the Runic monuments in stone and the Celtic designs in metal. Our Saxon, Norman, and Early-English Gothic, and our Tudor Gothic, ecclesiastical and domestic, in beauty and simplicity compared with, and probably excelled, anything of their kind in the world. Throughout the Middle Ages England was pre-eminent in what was then one of the most important arts, the art of embroidery and the decoration of stuffs. Our artistic tastes had led us for centuries to possess artistic metal-work. We had produced great miniature painters, we had had line engravers of the highest class—William Miller, of Edinburgh, recently dead, was the only man who could translate into black and white the mysteries and subtleties of Turner's water-colours. This inartistic country had had some of the finest wood engravers. The English mezzotinters, moreover, stood alone in their walk of art. It was probable that even now we had in this country, in private collections, more magnificent pictures by the great masters than were in all other countries on earth. But, had it not been for the munificence of a number of donors, the English school would have had no place whatever in the National Gallery. From 1824-62 our rulers never spent a penny on any English work of art for the Gallery. Was not, he asked, John Constable the founder and master of the modern French school? A great number of our artists now were copying his skim-milk work. A Romney a very few years ago could have been bought for £500 which now was thought moderate at £10,000. We ought to secure fine examples of our school, for not only would prices soon be prohibitive, but other English-speaking nations, Americans and Australians, would outbid us. To the disgrace of the authorities we had no suitable gallery for the proper exhibition of our national art of painting in water-colour. He firmly believed that probably there were not a hundred men in these islands whose judgment was reliable as to the sterling and lasting merits of the work of some of our most celebrated masters, especially in landscape. Names were understood, but merit, as Mr. Ruskin said, must be taken in faith. The abject race of Englishmen was, or had been, a nation of colourists, with a pronounced genius of its own, and all great painters had been great colourists. The nature of English art was to avoid all that was morbid or mawkish in sentiment. Hogarth, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Raeburn, and Morland were healthy impressionists and colourists. (Applause.) The technique of the work of our great landscape painters was as complete and expressive as anything of the sort the world had ever seen. The colours seemed jewelled and afloat, as it were, in amber, and the handling was as unerring as that of the skilled musician. Our English landscape had been pointedly neglected, especially in water-colours. That, perhaps, was a sign of its greatness. Oil painters, not the art-loving people, had been the enemies of the water-colour painters. Their Cinderella had had the homage of the most eloquent art critic that ever wrote, and Turner himself, according to Mr Ruskin, had used this medium for his "intense study of nature." And yet we had not even a room for the permanent exhibition of their beloved art! In spite of all this scorn, a multitude of water-colour painters of the highest class took to-day the first position. With the single exception of Turner, these celebrated masters were not even represented in the National Gallery. He was always told, "There are no funds." He found, however, in the official report that £45,716 had been left for the purchase of pictures for the National collection. The authorities had spent money on scraps of Constable—(laughter)—and on golden-gloried, squint-eyed, Byzantine saints. (Much laughter.) They must obtain power to spend money and pictures from English collectors, and so bring such pressure on the Government that they might take the formation of a truly British collection in hand. (Applause.) Let them urge that the beautiful drawings in water-colour by Turner, including the *Liber Studiorum* itself, together with the noble bequest of De Wint and Cattermole which the late Mr. John Henderson made to the nation, should be moved to a more dignified and suitable position than they fill at present, so that they might be seen not by a cellar light, but by the calm, clear, silver light which was required to allow their infinities and delicacies to be studied and felt,' (Applause.)

COMEDY THEATRE.

It is to be feared that "The Favourite of the King"—a new historical play by Messrs. F. S. Boas and Jocelyn Brandon, produced yesterday afternoon at the Comedy Theatre—will bring its authors neither fame nor fortune. There are some decidedly happy notions and well-conceived motives in their work, if one is content to pluck them out from their badly-arranged surroundings. But the whole effect of the piece—and, of course, like every play, "The Favourite of the King" must be judged by its whole effect—is as crude and unsatisfactory as possible. It is a mere patchwork collection of scenes and incidents—a string of ill-connected morsels—a handful of occasionally clever dramatic snatches put together in the style of the veriest tyro. To begin with, the subject of the play is not a very fascinating one. Under the bowdlerising influence of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, he turned into an ideal hero, and certainly, in the present case, the dramatists have made no attempt to exhibit his failings in a favourable light. From the hour when he plights his feeble troth to pretty Helen Ashton down to the fatal moment when he falls a victim to the murderous hand of the fanatic Felton, Villiers is indeed a contemptible creature. He cuts out the girl who loves him in order that he may marry the wife of Lady Katherine Manners; he leagues himself with poisoning alchemists; and he even imprisons the unfortunate Helen for an offence which he well knows she has not committed. Little wonder that Mr. Royce Carleton did not succeed in making Villiers an attractive personage. A part of this kind could only be played really effectively in the cut-and-dash style of the modern melodrama, and this, of course, is out of the question when the actor is dealing with blank verse of a somewhat cumbrous order. Still, it must be said that Mr. Carleton treated the unpromising material at his disposal with peculiar tact and discretion, and for this he is entitled to no small credit. A far more striking character in every way is that of Helen Ashton, a rôle in which Miss Dorothy Dene surprised many of her audience by the amount of unforced and genuine power which she exhibited. Miss Louise Moodie was legitimately intense for a very brief moment; Mrs. C. L. Carson furnished a most pleasing little comedy-sketch; and Miss Annie Rose gave some well-studied and delicate touches to the part of Lady Katherine Manners. Mr. Bassett Roe's Doctor Lambe was cast in the right mould, and attached from every point of view, upon the whole. He might, however, have made his voice, as well as the lines on his face, indicate the approximate age of the alchemist; his tones were rather too juvenile.

MUSICAL MEMS.

The builders are just now in possession of Craig-y-Nos, Mdme. Patti's castle. Patti has got it into her head that a winter garden beneath a stately dome would be a desirable addition to her palace. Accordingly Messrs. Deardi are busy building a winter garden, which is to be 104 ft. long and 70 ft. wide, with a central dome some 50 ft. high.

Mr. John Pettie, R.A., courteously placed his fine studio at the "Lothians," in Fitzjohn's-avenue, at the disposal of Mr. Marmaduke Barton for a pianoforte recital last night. Mr. Barton is a young pianist who won considerable renown during his studentship at the Royal College of Music, and subsequently abroad, and who bids fair to raise high the standard of that school and our younger national composers.

When the attempt was recently made to form an English committee of the Beethoven Haus Society of Bonn, it was announced that a feature of the opening in May would be an exhibition of manuscripts, relics, and memorials of all kinds of the great composer. An invitation has now been issued to the owners of any of these to lend the treasures in their possession. Englishmen wishing to contribute would do well to communicate with Sir George Grove.

Mr. Arthur Somervell writes, "I think that any one reading your paragraph in (Saturday's) *Pall Mall Gazette* on the Royal College Concert would imagine that I was still a student. As a matter of fact it is nearly four years since I was a student there, during which time I have been writing and teaching." How time flies!

☞ FOR THE PEOPLE
HUDSON'S SOAP.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WANTED A FENCING SCHOOL.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—Will some of your readers kindly tell me of a good school of fencing for young ladies somewhere in the neighbourhood of Maida-vale or Kilburn? I believe a professor of gymnastics was interviewed by one of your reporters recently on this subject. This is why I trouble you with this letter.

—Faithfully yours, STOCKBROKER.

March 7.

"IN SATAN'S BONDS."

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a review of my novel "In Satan's Bonds," which appeared in your issue of the 19th ult. There is throughout the criticism a virulence of tone that tells its own tale, and the matter would be quite unworthy of serious notice were it not for the fact that the critic, not satisfied with the ordinary methods of hostile criticism, has invented certain passages which he has had the hardihood to represent (by means of inverted commas and certain feeble witticisms) as quotations from the work he pretends to review. I take these spurious quotations in the order in which they occur, and in which they are ridiculed by their own fabricator:—(1) "Wildly and passionately." (2) "The most exquisitely beautiful creature he has ever seen." (3) "The pure and beautiful creature." (4) "My wife gets to love Gertrude almost as well as I." Thus there are no less than four apparent quotations which the critic has either invented or obtained from another source, but not one of which can be found in the work he affects to review. Not content with this, he follows up the last-named passage with a fifth invention, which is so absolutely puerile and silly that its untruthfulness must be patent to the most credulous of his readers. Hostile criticism and unadulterated mendacity are not often found together in equal proportions, and, as a modicum of justice to myself, this letter may be considered deserving of a place in your journal.—Your obedient servant,

March 5. THE AUTHOR OF "IN SATAN'S BONDS."

[*Peccavimus!* Our reviewer tenders his sincere apologies to the author of "In Satan's Bonds" for the inverted commas, which were erroneously included in his review of that work in consequence of a clerical mischance. We have compared the alleged quotations with the actual passages on which they are based, and cannot honestly say that we see any great divergence. Still that is a matter of opinion, like the "virulence of tone" and other naughty things which the author attributes to the critic. But our concern here is with matters of fact, and we join with our reviewer in apologising to the author for the erroneous quotations attributed to him.—ED. *P. M. G.*]

THE PERSIAN ACCESSIONS AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

To the Editor of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—In your yesterday's issue under Art Notes you have some particulars as to the Richard 'collection of Persian objects lately shown at the Paris Exhibition. It may interest some of your readers to have this information supplemented. The collection was made some thirty years ago by M. Richard when he first went to Persia, and was sent home to France many years ago, where it lay packed up in cases at a château in the country. M. Richard continued, however, to collect, and thanks to the judgment and zeal of Sir Robert Murdoch Smith, then engineer in charge of the telegraph in Persia, now director of the Edinburgh Museum, a great portion of what M. Richard from time to time collected was purchased for the Kensington Museum. M. Richard having the intention to come to Paris for the Exhibition, some one in authority suggested to him to exhibit his old collection, which he did, and then my own small part in negotiating the purchase and sale of the collection took place. I certainly had the pleasure of making some few friends through the collection, but fear I must have lost some from not being able to give them "first pick" of this unique collection. I may state that what remained was not all sold last week at Christie's, as that house has received instructions from me to sell the whole of the magnificent embroideries and textiles forming part of the collection, and sent to them direct from the Exhibition, as also some few pieces of interesting jewellery. The MSS. for the present I have retained.—I am, Sir, yours very obediently,

LINDO L. MYERS.

March 7.

THE QUEEN AND CANON LIDDON.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—May I be allowed to suggest another reason why it would be gratifying to at least one part of the public if Canon Liddon were to be honoured with a bishopric? I am not a regular worshipper at St. Paul's, but the praises of the great preacher had been sounded so often in my ears that I have on several occasions come up to town on purpose to hear him. The first time I was very ready to admire, but through the long afternoon service I sat and listened to what I suppose was a great sermon, but which passed through my ears and mind without once touching a sympathetic chord, and no other impression remained than that made by the sound of the preacher's peculiarly clear and metallic voice. When, in answer to the preacher's peculiarly clear and metallic voice. When, in answer to the inquiring "Well?" after the service I tried to live up to my Sunday duties by quoting the text, which seemed particularly apt: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal," I was given to understand that I had not been able to mount the heights where Canon Liddon had led us, and that I had every reason to be sorry for myself.

I do not, of course, mean to imply that the Canon is not a "charitable" man in the narrower acceptation of the term; but, after hearing him again and again, it has always struck me that, great theologian and good man though he is, he is certainly not the right man in a pulpit which might be so magnificent a power for good as that of St. Paul's. As from my seat in the chancel I looked at the crowd filling the aisles, when, one Sunday afternoon in broiling August, I went for the last time to hear Canon Liddon, it seemed as if there could hardly be a sadder sight than that of all those upturned faces, who were so striking an illustration of the line "the hungry sheep look up and are not fed."

It is not high philosophy, nor theology, nor even the clear and scholarly interpretation of some much-disputed doctrinal point that the majority of London church-goers require, but rather some ray of the kindly light which will lighten their path, and help them in their daily cares and trials, and some word of sympathy and comfort which tells them that the preacher in the pulpit knows with how many temptations their path is beset, who would do the bidding of Christ and walk in the narrow way. There is nothing, or next to nothing, in Canon Liddon's sermons of this, and what there is of it is in the letter which kills, and not in "the spirit which vivifies." I am not alone in this view; for, after once having braved the pity which I found I aroused in the Canon's admirers, I have had the courage of my opinion, and found that it coincided with that of many others. It is bad enough, and sad enough, in all conscience that we have to submit to listen to bad preachers in smaller places of worship; but surely the great City Cathedral should have only men who thoroughly understand the needs of the time, and are "more human, and less divine" than Canon Liddon.

Would it not, therefore, be infinitely better to make the reverend gentleman the head of a diocese where learned sermons to well-to-do congregations are appreciated, and where there is less dire need for "the religion of the poor" than there is among the dwellers in the City?

But before Canon Liddon accepts the crook and the mitre, it might be well if he were to read the passages in Chaucer, Milton, Hugo, and Scheffel referring to the shepherds of the people.

March 10. X.

A WONDERFUL JAPANESE FAMILY.

THEIR COMBINED AGES TOTAL 994 YEARS.

"A thousand years in one household" (*ichka sen-nen*) is an old Japanese saying, employed with reference to an event which, in respect of extreme rarity, may be classed with the sight of a dead donkey or a tinker's funeral. The *Hochi Shimbun* says that an instance may at present be found in the household of a merchant called Mizuma Gensuke, who resides at Kanazawa, in the Saitama district of Sado. The family consists of the following members:—Great-great-great-grandpapa Gengo (aged 130); great-great-great-grandmamma Tomi (aged 132); great-great-grandpapa Gembei (aged 101); great-great-grandmamma Miyo (aged 99); great-great-aunt Yoshi (aged 105); great-grandpapa Gensuke (aged 81); great-grandmamma Kimi (aged 79); grandpapa Gempachiro (aged 61); grandmamma Toyo (aged 60); papa Genkichi (aged 40); mamma Tomo (aged 38); uncle Genroku (aged 35); son Genshichi (aged 14); daughter Toki (aged 5). The united ages of the fourteen amounted, at the close of last year, to 993, and consequently became 994 on the first day of this year, according to the Japanese method of calculation. Next New Year's Day, supposing that death had not intervened meanwhile, the aggregate ages would be 1,008, and as 994 is nearer 1,000 than 1,008, the family have resolved to celebrate their *ikka sen-nen* this spring by a visit to the shrine of Ise, and afterwards to Kyoto, where the whole fourteen, from the little tot of 5 to the greyhead—if he still has any hair—of 130, will do their sightseeing in company.

THE CYCLE COMPANY LAWSUIT.

In the case of the Rudge Cycle Company *v.* Stoddart, Lovering, and Co., in which a verdict was given for the plaintiffs a short time ago with damages £5,000 for breach of an agency contract, a divisional court to-day granted a further stay of execution pending appeal.

A QUESTION OF ROYAL PRECEDENCE.

General Floresco (says a Bucharest telegram to Reuter) interpellated the Government in the Senate yesterday respecting the custom prevailing in the Greek church at Sulina of mentioning in the prayers the name of the King of Greece before that of the King of Roumania. M. Lahovary, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, replied that the practice was based upon a resolution taken by the Cabinet in 1875, which General Floresco, who was then Minister, had himself signed. After some discussion the Senate adopted, by 53 to 40 votes, the order of the day pure and simple accepted by the Government.

THE CASES AGAINST DR. BARNARDO.

In the Queen's Bench yesterday, the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Fry sitting as a Divisional Court, granted a stay of further proceedings against Dr. Barnardo under a Habeas Corpus to bring up a girl named Tye, pending the hearing of an appeal to the House of Lords against another Habeas Corpus to bring up a boy named Gossage. If the proceedings had gone on it appeared that Dr. Barnardo would have to be committed to prison, as a master has found in a report not yet presented to the court that Dr. Barnardo is in contempt.

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE BRIGHTON NEW PIER.

The Brighton West Pier Bill came this morning before a Select Committee of the House of Lords, and was at once referred as unopposed to the Chairman of Committees. Under this bill powers are granted for the incorporation of a company for the purpose of acquiring the undertaking of the Brighton West Pier Company, and for the extension of the pier further into the sea a distance of 150 yards beyond its present termination.

FOREST OF DEAN COLLIERS AND THEIR PAY DAYS.

At a meeting of colliers, held at Cinderford last night, an agent informed the men that the masters had resolved, if weekly pays were to be introduced, they must pay full price for the colliers' coal they consume, that being an advance of 25 per cent. upon the present rate. There was a long discussion, during which it was urged that the masters' suggestion was impracticable, to settle up every fortnight, be accepted. It was at length resolved, amid much enthusiasm, that the men should adhere to their demands, and that if no settlement were made within a fortnight notices to strike should be sent in.

FAILURE OF A CITY SOLICITOR.

Yesterday Mr. Registrar Giffard, upon the application of Mr. Finch, made a receiving order against Thomas Gray, solicitor, Leadenhall-street, E.C., residing at Peckham. The petitioning creditors are the North London Equitable Building Society.

SALFORD CORPORATION'S ACTION AGAINST MR. LEVER.

A divisional court of Queen's Bench to-day heard an appeal in the case of the mayor and corporation of Salford *v.* Lever against an order of Mr. Justice Lawrance in Chambers ordering the plaintiffs to answer certain interrogatories as to when and where the plaintiffs alleged that bribes had been given to their gas manager for obtaining orders for coal, what was the market price of coal at the time, and whether there were other tenders besides the defendant's for coal, and the prices tendered. The plaintiffs claimed privilege, and the court upheld the claim, allowing the appeal with costs, and observing that the object of the defendant appeared to be to ascertain how little the plaintiffs knew.

SUICIDE OF AN OFFICER.

A staff-sergeant in the Rifle Brigade, stationed at Fort Burgoyne, Dover, shot himself at his quarters yesterday. The deceased held a responsible position.

FAILURE OF A RETIRED MAJOR.

Under the failure of Charles John Burgess, a retired major in the army, the summary of accounts, &c., has just been issued to the creditors. The debtor, described as of Bernard-street, Brunswick-square, and 94, King's-road, Brighton, states that he acted for some time as major in the Hon. Artillery Company. He returns his unsecured debts at £4,350 14*s.* 9*d.*, and his assets at nil. He states that a debt of £2,300 is due under a judgment recovered against him as a director of a public company now in liquidation. He attributes his insolvency to that liability and to his having been without income or remunerative employment for some years past. The meeting is appointed for the 18th inst.

THE RAID ON LIVERPOOL BETTING CLUBS.

Five betting clubs were proceeded against at Liverpool police-court yesterday for breach of the Excise laws. In three cases penalties of £30 each were inflicted for selling beer and tobacco without licences.

END OF THE HUNGARIAN MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The Ministerial crisis has now been definitively settled by the appointment of Count Szapary to the Premiership, in succession to M. Tisza, who leaves the Cabinet. All the other ministers who held office under the retiring Premier retain their portfolios.

The *Pester Lloyd* announces that Count Szapary's Cabinet will appear before Parliament by the end of this week. It is probable that Count Zichy will be offered the post of Minister of the Interior which Count Telcky intends to vacate.—*Reuter.*

COUNT ANDRASSY AND HIS SECRETARY.

An interesting anecdote is current in Vienna of the late Count Andrassy and his whilom secretary, M. Doczy. The Count and his secretary were driving one day through Terebes in a phaeton. Somes Polish Jews stared at them with more than usual curiosity. The secretary said! "Your Excellency imagines, I suppose, that the Jews are admiring the Prime Minister; but I can tell you they are not—they are admiring me. They know that I am a poor Jew; and the fact that I am seated side by side with Count Andrassy in his phaeton is to them a much more astonishing miracle than that the landlord of Terebes is seated high up in the King's council-room." The Count laughed and urged that he too had made his way in the world well, and afterwards at dinner he asked the company assembled who had made the greater career, he or his secretary. He pleaded in his own favour by reminding them of his exile and the sore straits he was in then, but the secretary in his turn described his obscure birth and the extreme poverty of his student days, and related how his first literary wages had been earned by writing a love letter for a cook. Everybody, including Count Andrassy's family, took the secretary's part, till the Count played a last trump, and said, "You all forget that I have been hung."

BEAR DRIVES IN FRANCE.

The bear is now quite at home in the mountains of Isere, bordering on Savoy, whilst lately the destructive animal has made its appearance in the forests of Haut-Dious, in the department de la Drôme. Bear drives have been organized, but without success, so far.

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Paris (St. Lazare) ..... arr. 8.0 *a.m.*

PARIS TO LONDON (1, 2 Class).

Paris (St. Lazare) ..... dep. 8.30 *a.m.*
London Bridge (City) ..... arr. 7.0 *a.m.*
Victoria (West-end) ..... 7.50 *a.m.*

Fares—Single First, 30*s.* 7*d.*, Second, 25*s.* 7*d.*; Third, 15*s.* 2*d.* Return First, 50*s.* 8*d.*, Second 42*s.* 2*d.*, Third, 30*s.* 5*d.*

Powerful Paddle Steamers, with excellent Cabins, fit Trains run alongside Steamers at Newhaven and Dieppe.

FOR full particulars see Time Books and Handbills to be obtained at Victoria, London Bridge, or any other Station, and at the following Branch Offices, where Tickets may also be obtained:—West-end General Offices, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, and 3, Grand Hotel-buildings, Trafalgar-square; Hays' Agency, Cornhill; Cook's Office, Ludgate-circus; and Gare's Office, 142, Strand.

(By Order)
A. SARLE, Secretary and General Manager.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND ORIENT LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY MAIL SERVICE.

The following Steamships leave LONDON as under, PLYMOUTH one day later, NAPLES nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, and BRISBANE, Mail, calling at COLOMBO, and taking Passengers for all Ports in AUSTRALASIA.

	Tons.	H.P.	
ORIENT	5,365 ..	6,000 ..	March 18
AUSTRALIA	5,277 ..	4,000 ..	March 28
OROYA	6,057 ..	7,000 ..	April 11
GRIZABA	6,077 ..	7,000 ..	April 25
LIGURIA	4,648 ..	4,200 ..	May 9
ORMUZ	6,031 ..	8,500 ..	May 23

Loading Berth, Tilbury Docks.

Fares from £17 17*s.* to £70.

Managers, F. Green and Co., 13, Fenchurch-avenue, and Anderson, Anderson, and Co., 5, Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C. For freight or passage apply to the latter firm; or to the West-end Agents, Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

THREE Really Beautiful FUR HEADPIECES, mounted on elast. Lions, 12*s.*; Opossum, 10*s.*; Grebe, 5*s.* 6*d.*, or 21 the three. A. HAROLD, 37, Snow-hill, London.

BORWICK'S

The best that money can buy. BAKING POWDER.

PARRISH'S "GOLD MEDAL" Inventor's recipe. CHEMICAL FOOD APPROVED BY A MEDICAL JURY. FOR CHILDREN, in cases of WEAKNESS and impoverished blood. In bottles 1*l*d. and 1*s.* 3*d.* each; by post 1*s.* and 2*s.* each. Only genuine when having name and trade mark of

SOLE PROPRIETORS, LORIMER and CO., Britannia-row, London, N. Awarded six gold and prize medals, 1884.

A Wonderful Medicine.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

ARE universally admitted to be worth a Guinea a Box for Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the stomach, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Fulness and Swelling after Meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Scurvy and Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, &c. The first dose will give relief in twenty minutes. Every sufferer is earnestly invited to try a Box of these Pills, and they will be acknowledged to be

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.

For Females of all ages these Pills are invaluable, as a few doses of them carry off all humours, and bring about all that is required. No female should be without them. There is no medicine to be found equal to Beecham's Pills for removing any obstruction or irregularity of the system.

For a Weak Stomach, Impaired Digestion, and all Disorders of the Liver, they act like magic, and a few doses will be found to work wonders on the most important organs in the human machine. They strengthen the whole muscular system, restore the long lost complexion, bring back the keen edge of appetite, and arouse the whole human frame. Such is the wonderful influence of Beecham's Pills, that thousands have voluntarily come forward to certify to the public the results obtained by them, in many cases where they were suffering from the most serious disorders that afflict mankind.

Sold by all Chemists, &c., at 1*s.* 1½*d.*, 2*s.* 9*d.*, 4*s.* 6*d.*, and 11*s.*

Prepared only at the Establishment of the Proprietor, Thomas Beecham, St. Helens, Lancashire.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS. — These purifying Pills give potency to the nerves, blood, liver, stomach, kidneys, and bowels, which presides over every action, maintaining the growth and well-being of the body. None can overestimate the necessity of keeping the nerves well strung, or the ease with which these Pills accomplish that end. They are most useful in all cases of indigestion, palpitation, sick headaches, and costiveness.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS for FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1*s.* 1½*d.* and 2*s.* 9*d.*; of Chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps by the Maker, R. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham.

NOTICE.—Have you a Cough? OWBRIDGE'S LUNG TONIC will CURE it. Over 60,000 Cases Cured! A dose of 2*s.* 9*d.* will remove it.

Please to add my testimony to the great curative properties of your Lung Tonic. I have many times had proofs of its value in my family and would not think of being without a bottle of it in the house. I believe it has been the means of saving the life of my child.—Mrs. J. HILL, Chelmsworth, Clifton-street, Manchester.

Prepared only by COWBRIDGE, Hull. Sold in bottles by all Chemists, &c., at 1*s.* 1½*d.*, 2*s.* 9*d.*, 4*s.* 6*d.*, and 11*s.*

KEATING'S LOZENGES

Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.

Sold in Tins, 13½*d.* each.

DEAFNESS CURED.—A very interesting 50-page ILLUSTRATED BOOK on DEAFNESS, issues in the hand. How they may be cured at your house. Post free.—Address Dr. Nicholson, 21, Bedford-square, London, W.C.

SAUNDER'S GUARDS' HAIR DYE is the cheapest and best, has no smell, is perfectly harmless, and instantly changes red or grey hair to the most natural brown or black. A trial proves its superiority. 2*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* 6*d.*; free for 33 stamps extra.—J. TOUSSAU SAUNDERS, 312, Oxford-street.

CROSSE and BLACKWELL'S

PREPARED SOUPS,

MOCK TURTLE, OX TAIL, HARE, GRAVY, &c.,

Are Sold by Grocers in Pint and Quart Tins,

Bearing CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S *Names in full on the Labels.*

ATCHISON, TOPEKA, and SANTA FE RAILROAD COMPANY.—MESSRS. BARING BROTHERS and CO. are prepared to RECEIVE the reorganization certificates issued by them on behalf of the Union Trust Company of New York, to be exchanged for new Bonds and Scrip.

Each holding must be listed separately on forms which can be obtained at their counting-house.

No. 8, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.,
12th March, 1890.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION (LIMITED).
HEAD OFFICE: 40, Threadneedle-street, London.
WEST-END OFFICE: 25, Cockspur-street, S.W.
EDINBURGH OFFICE: 25, St. Andrew-square.
DUNDEE OFFICE: 6, Panmure-street.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.—Australia, India, Ceylon, China, Japan, Straits, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Persia, Aden, Paris, New York, San Francisco.

The Bank receives Deposits for three years at 5 per cent., also for shorter periods, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally.

THE BANK OF AFRICA (LIMITED). Head office, 113, CANNON-STREET, LONDON. Subscribed Capital, £750,000; paid up, £250,000; Reserve Fund, £75,000.
General Manager, JAMES STIDSON, Port Elizabeth.
Branches: Alfred North, Cape Town, Cradock, Grahamstown, Kimberley, King William's Town, Port Elizabeth, Queen's Town, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Fauresmith, Winburg, Durban, Newcastle, Pietermaritzburg, Barberton, Johannesburg, Pretoria.
The Bank issues drafts, makes telegraphic remittances, buys and collects bills, and conducts all kinds of banking business.
Deposits received on terms which may be ascertained on applications. R. G. DAVIS, Secretary.

THE NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY, 25, Moorgate-street, London, E.C. Established 1849.
Members' Capital, £1,636,474.
Present Advances, £1,454,583.
Advances made upon approved Freehold and Leasehold houses, repayable by Instalments to suit Borrowers' convenience, or at Interest only.—For further particulars apply to the Secretary.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1836.
LONDON: 1, Moorgate-street, E.C.
ABERDEEN: 1, Union-terrace.
INCOME AND FUNDS (1889).
Fire Premiums £615,000 | Life Premiums £203,000
Interest £140,000
Accumulated Funds £3,682,000

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION. Established 1806.
ASSURANCE FUND FOUR MILLIONS.
Mutual Assurance at Least Cost.
81, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.

Established 1868.
THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.
BUDGE-ROW, CANNON-STREET, LONDON, E.C.
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FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£50 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for fixed terms.
DEPOSITS of £3 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
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F. H. ROCKS.

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Total advances made exceed £1,385,685.
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DIVIDENDS paid half-yearly through the post.
For forms of application apply to
W. H. MAYERS, Secretary.
Offices: 23, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

HOUSES, Furnished and Unfurnished, and all descriptions of business premises, to be let or sold in London and country; valuable selections of building land also on hand. Particulars free, of H. C. HALLIDAY, Land and Estate Agent, 65 and 66, Chancery-lane, W.C., and Hendon.

SYNDICATE.—TWO THOUSAND POUNDS in SHARES required for a small private Company capable of enormous development. Heavy Bonus.—Address "Finance," care of the SECURITIES TRANSFER AGENCY, 415, Mansion House-chambers, Queen Victoria-street, London, E.C.

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DOUBLE OPTION ASSURANCES

WITH OR WITHOUT MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Policies effected NOW *or before Mid-summer Day secure early and special*

ADVANTAGES.

DOUBLE OPTION PROSPECTUSES NOW READY,
APPLY TO THE ACTUARIES, SUN LIFE OFFICE, 63, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.

Dr. B. W. HAIR'S

ASTHMA CURE.

The Only Constitutional Cure.

The great success which has attended the use of this medicine has induced me to publish to the world that I have found a certain cure for those who are afflicted with this disease. B. W. HAIR, M.D.

Since its discovery in 1876 the average number of ASTHMATIC AND BRONCHITIS CASES CURED EXCEED 15,000 ANNUALLY, eclipsing in success all other Asthmatic and Bronchitis remedies known. The proofs are contained in the spontaneous testimony of England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, America, and other countries, contained in our TREATISE, SENT FREE AND POST PAID TO ANY ADDRESS, which include letters from the following distinguished persons out of

98,000 TESTIMONIALS RECEIVED.

THE COUNTESS OF MACCLESFIELD.
LADY SARGENT.
SIR SAMUEL HAYES, BART.,
ADMIRAL HORNBY.
CANON CARTER,
GENERAL JACKSON, U.S.A.
PROFESSOR H. L. OSBORN, LL.D.
PROFESSOR PEABODY.
T. B. FURNER, M.D.
S. D. BROTHERS, M.D.
M. G. DAVIES, M.D.
&c., &c., &c.

MEDICINE 4s. 6d. AND 11s. PER BOTTLE, THROUGH ALL CHEMISTS.

DR. B. W. HAIR and SON, 249½, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON;
CINCINNATI, OHIO; and LEIPZIG, GERMANY.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF MINING AND METALLURGY.—LONDON, 1890.
PATRON: The LORD MAYOR of LONDON.
HONORARY PRESIDENTS: The DUKE of TIFE, Hon. Vice-Presidents: The Earl of Wharncliffe; the Right Hon. Lord Brassey, K.C.B.; the Right Hon. Lord Thurlow, F.R.S., &c.
This Exhibition will be held at the Crystal Palace, from July 2 to September 30, 1890, and will comprise Machinery, Metals, Minerals, Metallurgical Processes, Practical Mining, Quarrying, &c. Applications for space should be sent in at once. Entries close March 15. Prospectuses and Application forms may be had from the Hon. Secretary (Geo. A. Ferguson, Editor of the *Mining Journal*), at the Offices, 18, Fetter-lane, E.C.

INDIAN UNCOVENANTED CIVIL SERVICE and CIVIL ENGINEERS' ASSOCIATIONS.—A PUBLIC DINNER will be held at the WHITEHALL ROOMS, HOTEL METROPOLE, on FRIDAY, March 14 next. Members and friends desirous of attending should communicate early with
J. S. HEYLAND, Sec. I.U.C.S. Association, No. 45, Fullwell, S.W., Feb. 25, 1890.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Institution will be held at PRINCES' HALL, PICCADILLY, on SATURDAY NEXT, the 15th of March, at Three o'clock precisely, his Grace the DUKE OF FIFE, K.T., in the Chair. CHARLES DIBDIN, Secretary. 14, John-street, Adelphi.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART.
TWO LECTURES on "The Art of Illustration" will be given by HENRY BLACKBURN, Esq., in the LECTURE THEATRE of the SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM on the 13th and 20th March at 3.45 p.m.
The public will be admitted on payment of 1s. for each Lecture.

QUEENWOOD COLLEGE, HAMPSHIRE.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

3 LINES 1/-
3 INSERTIONS 2/6
Beyond 8 Lines, 4d. per Line per Insertion.
NOTE.—Each line averages about Seven words. These advertisements can be repeated at the same rates in the *Pall Mall Budget*, the Weekly Edition of the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

HOUSES, &c., to be LET or SOLD.

TO LET.—Houses, Villas, Mansions, Chambers (business and residential), Apartments (furnished or unfurnished), churchyards vacated, all replete with modern conveniences, but many quite unfit for habitation in consequence of the dirty condition in which they have been left by the previous tenants, the confined dirt and odours arising therefrom proving a fruitful source of plague, misery, and sometimes death to their occupiers. To remedy this, Hudson's Soap is invaluable as a purifying agent. Hudson's will rapidly transform the dirty house into a sweet and comfortable abode; and if the water used with Hudson's Soap in the scrubbing and paint-cleaning is poured down the water-closets and sinks, the pans, pipes, &c., belonging thereto will be thoroughly cleansed. The ordinary Disinfectants claim to destroy effluvia only, and many of them simply substitute an odour for a stench; but the purifying properties of Hudson's Soap removes the danger of sore throats, fevers, and worse diseases. Hudson's Soap is popular the world over for all washing, scouring, and cleaning purposes. Hudson's is a pure, Dry Soap, in fine powder, and dissolves immediately in hot or cold water, and is excellent for all purposes where ordinary soap is objectionable, such as washing dishes, plates, knives, forks, saucepans, &c., as it leaves no soapy trace or smell. From the cot to the palace the regular daily use of Hudson's promotes purity, health, and satisfaction. In 1 lb., ½ lb., and ¼ lb. packets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OLD BOOKS, WANTED.—£3 each offered for any of the following in the 1s. Monthly Parts:—"A Tale of Two Cities," 1859; "Oliver Twist," 1846; "Pickwick Papers," 1836-7; "Sketches by Boz," 1835-6; "Vanity Fair," 1848-9. List of other wants post free. Reader's reference, W. T. SPENCER, Adelaide Cottage, Shanklin, I. of W.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 1890.—SHAMROCKS for Foreign Parts. Three Bunches post free One Shilling.—E. NAYLAN, South City Market, Dublin.

TO AUTHORS, JOURNALISTS, &c.—An Editor of experience says:—"If the writers who deluge my table with MSS. would only spend from 1s. to 2s. per 1,000 words in having their articles copied by a type writer, what a blessing it would be to me and the compositors, and how much greater chance their copy would have of being read!" TYPEWRITING DONE at 24 hours' notice, 1s. per 1,000.—H. Shafebury-road, Hammersmith, W. Translations from French and German also undertaken.

STAMPS.—STAMPS.—PALMER'S BAZAAR. See Brick-lane, E. Buy, sell, and exchange with Palmer, who agitated Parliament to pass an Act to stop forged stamps. Cheapest house. The best price given for collections. Opinions given on stamps gratis. 500 stamps, all different, 8s. Stamps sent on approval.—J. W. PALMER, 23, Strand, London. My only address.

USED POSTAGE STAMPS WANTED.—DUTTY and Co., 8, Fishmonger-alley, London, E.C., pay the highest prices for all kinds of postage stamps, loose or in collections. The old stamps of Australia, North America, and the West Indies especially wanted.

£20.—TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING. Write for Illd. Guide, 229 pages (5 stamps). "How to Commence, from £20 to £1,000."—TOBACCONIST OUTFITTING CO. (Regd.) Chief Office and Show Rooms 195, Euston-rd., N.W.

WASHING.—Mrs. MARTIN, Park House Laundry, Kilburn-lane, Queen's Park, W., wishes for First-class Washing. This Laundry is solely for high-class family work. References to titled families. Lowest prices possible, consistent with best work. List free. Established 1870. No chemicals used.

Sir CHAS. CAMERON, M.D., says:—"An Excellent Food, admirably adapted to the wants of Infants."

Established 1825.

NEAVE'S FOOD

FOR INFANTS, INVALIDS, AND THE AGED.

BEST AND CHEAPEST.

Dr. BARTLETT, Ph.D., F.C.S., says:—"The Flesh and Bone forming constituents are far above the average of the best Farinaceous Foods."

PUBLIC CAUTION. In view of the boast made by the makers of certain FOODS as to the number of Medals they have obtained, MR. P. J. RUMNEY desires it to be understood that, owing to the unsatisfactory way in which Medals have often been awarded, he prefers to devote his money and energy to preparing a really pure and thoroughly cooked preparation, and relies upon the unbought testimony of the public, which pronounces

DR. RIDGE'S PATENT COOKED FOOD

TO BE THE BEST THE WORLD PRODUCES.

"This is the MOST PERFECT Food we have examined."
CHAS. H. PIESSE, M.R.C.S., F.C.S., WM. JOHNSTONE, Ph.D., F.I.C., F.C.S., } Public Analysts.

THE

PALL MALL BUDGET

Of THURSDAY, March 6,

CONTAINS:

A PORTRAIT OF MR. GEORGE LEWIS IN HIS WORK-ROOM AT ELY PLACE.
HOW GIRLS ARE TAUGHT TO FENCE. (Illustrated.)
A SKETCH OF LORD CHARLES BERESFORD IN HIS CABIN ON H.M.S. "UNDAUNTED."
SKETCHES ON THE "UNDAUNTED."
THE PIANOS OF SOME GREAT MEN. (Illustrated.)
AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM. (Illustrated.)
DOWN A SALT PIT. (Illustrated.)
HORSE SHOES: OLD AND NEW. (Illustrated.)

PRICE FOURPENCE. Post free FOURPENCE-HALFPENNY.

MAY BE OBTAINED OF ALL NEWSAGENTS AND AT ALL RAILWAY BOOKSTALLS.

Offices: 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

SHORTHAND. Metropolitan School, I.d., 27, Chancery-lane. Business men, note—Shorthand acquired here in odd spare hours. We can place any number of gentlemanly youths and young men in the City. Book-keeping, business-training, and training by Specialists. French, Spanish, German, Portuguese, &c., by native teachers. Prospectus post free.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

WHY TRAVEL WITHOUT AN

INSURANCE TICKET?

ISSUED AT ALL STATIONS.

Accidents of all kinds

INSURED AGAINST BY THE

RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE CO.

64, Cornhill, E.C.

W. J. VIAN, Secretary.

GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

EPPS'S COCOA.

BOILING WATER OR MILK.

Gold Medals, Paris, 1878: 1889.

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS.

Numbers with exquisitely Fine Points, for ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, and DRAUGHTSMEN—170, c170, 291, 303, 431, 659, 1000.

Printed and Published by THOMAS HUNT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—WEDNESDAY, March 12, 1890.